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WHEN LABOR OMBUDSMAN'S OFFICE CLOSES

'US Labor could pick up slack'

» Candoleta briefs SHRM on FMLA final rules

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Workers with wage issues and labor concerns should go to the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division for assistance amid the scheduled Sept. 30 closure of the Federal Labor Ombudsman's Office, U.S. Labor Assistant District Director for Guam and the CNMI Patrick Candoleta told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

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\$1M owed Rota casino commish

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

CNMI taxpayers owe members of the Rota Casino Gaming Commission some \$1 million in unpaid salaries and other outstanding obligations even if Rota does not have any operating casino and previous casino operations had shut down. The annual salary for each Rota casino commis-

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Credit union only has over \$60K left

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos disclosed yesterday that the much-awaited audit on the government's credit union program would soon be released, after confirming that he is now reviewing a draft copy of the report.

Speaking to reporters after yesterday's unveiling of welcome signs at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan Inter-

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NEW WELCOME SIGNS

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, left, is all smiles as he chats with his grandchildren, from left, Gerald John Deleon Guerrero, Mia Yobei, and Eloy Thomas Deleon Guerrero during the unveiling ceremonies yesterday at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. The governor led the unveiling of four new "Welcome" signs at the airport, courtesy of Tasi Tours.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

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BEFORE OK ON CUC PETITION TO RAISE RATES

CPUC urged to probe CUC's alleged 'needless' spending

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) has asked the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission to look into the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s expenditures to ensure that funds are not needlessly

spent on "higher salaries, vehicles, the call center, and any other item" before CPUC acts on CUC's petition to increase its rates.

Torres, at the same time, asked that the government speed up the release of a request for proposals to develop renewable energy sources.

The Inos administration also would like to see an RFP out "as soon as possible," press secretary Angel Demapan said when asked for comment.

"There have been numerous unsolicited proposals brought to the administration's attention, but the governor and lieutenant governor are stern in their position that any deci-

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➤ \$250M renewable energy project proposed for CNMI. PAGE 3



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Local

Kids get a blast from Ridge to Reef Summer program

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Whoever said classes are out during summer obviously haven't taken part in the American Memorial Park's Ridge to Reef Summer program.

For a week, the 17 students who took part in the environmental education program learned to understand the interconnectedness between land and sea, which is the basic premise of the Ridge to Reef Summer program.

Division of Environmental Quality Coral Reef Project coordinator Avra Heller said the participants pretty much now have an idea that whatever footprint humans have on land eventually impact the oceans.

In all, Heller said, the 2013 Ridge to Reef Summer program was fun and educational not only to the participants but the organizers as well.

"We took them to two field trips—Laolao Bay went to the DEQ revegetation site—and walked them up to Gap-gap Road. Also we had them snorkeling in Laolao Bay. They also got to see the whole process. Penultimate day they went to Managaha. They also got to



Ridge to Reef campers pose with their "upcycled" logo and National Park Service rangers.

AVRA HELLER

go snorkeling again and got to know what a marine protected area is and a lot about fishing and why you need to fish of a certain size and not smaller. The kids were really awesome."

The program had quite an impression on participants like 9-year-old Fredrick Guintu of

Agape Christian School and 10-year-old Emma Timmons of Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School

"I learned a lot of things about the sea and pollution. My favorite part was the beach cleanup yesterday (July 21). We also went on field trips to Managaha

and Laolao Bay," said Guintu.

"It was really a good experience where we learned about how to protect our reefs and our fish and how to keep them around so other generations will be able to experience it the way we've had. I also enjoyed our field trip to Managaha," said Timmons.

Guintu and Timmons' comments were seconded by other participants, who said that learning new things was a great experience even if they were on summer break.

Oleai Elementary School's Kenisha Hosono, for one, said

she learned that feeding fish can lead to them becoming sick. She also learned that littering at the beach is not good for everyone.

Jenara Bai, a 10-year-old from San Antonio Elementary School, said she learned a lot about nature through the field trips and hikes they did.

Tanapag Elementary School's Fiona Rathburn seemed older than 10 years old when she became philosophical when asked what she learned from the Reef to Ridges program.

"We got to learn how to cooperate with each other and got to know different things

about each other. [We] learned that there are different troubles with the environment. There are a lot of things that need to be improved. In order to do that it's going to [take] a long time. When I went to Laolao Bay there was really bad erosion and the roads were like in the bottom of the earth already. That's not good. It's almost impossible to put that back. Also I went to Laolao Bay. There was no more sand. There were only a few sand patches here and there and I think this is proof of the sea level rising and I think that's not very good. I think the cause of sea levels rising is not only the icebergs melting but also global warming," she said.

Even the volunteers who helped DEQ and AMP personnel during the summer program also got a learning experience.

"I think it was really fun. I got to learn a lot of new stuff, especially doing it together with my friends made it a fun experience and watching the little kids was like *hard* but we managed and got through it," said Mercy Aguon.

Kimo Olopai said, "It was a very fun experience to be able to work with little kids. It was really fun to give back in this way."

The program's goals were to introduce the roles wetlands and forests, watersheds, and marine protected areas play in the coral reef health and in public health; to help students recognize the interconnectedness of these systems; and to have them share this knowledge with family and friends.

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UNITY FOR BETTER TOURISM

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Route Inn Group chief executive officer Katsutoshi Nagayama, left, and Luen Thai Enterprises and Century Tours chief executive officer Willie Tan, right, had a courtesy meeting with CNMI Gov. Eloy Inos. Nagayama and Tan were on island for continued talks and cooperation on improving tourism services and offerings on Saipan, the capital of the CNMI. Route Inn Group is the second biggest hotel operator in Japan and owns the Hafa Adai Beach Hotel. Century Tours is a division of Luen Thai Enterprises, the affiliate of Tan Holdings that is based in Hong Kong and has operations in key cities of Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, and Shenyang. Century Tours is the leading tourism services provider on the island and has been a proactive player in growing tourist arrivals in the CNMI.



\$250M renewable energy project proposed for CNMI

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

A consortium of at least three companies from different countries called Green Energy Group has proposed to the CNMI government a renewable energy project that it says will bring to the islands as much as \$250 million in investments.

Juan S. Demapan, the consortium's vice president, said that they were very pleased with the meeting on Friday with Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Jude

Hofschneider who he said welcomed the proposed project.

In a statement yesterday, the Green Energy Group says it proposes to invest some \$250 million to build a wind turbine farm on Tinian that will produce 66 megawatts of electricity, expandable to 90MW and with a submarine cable to Saipan; 25MW of battery storage capacity; a 20MW power plant on Saipan; and 5MW of solar power on Saipan and Rota.

Prior to the July 19 meeting with Inos and Hofschneider, the

group also met with Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz and local officials on the same project.

The group said that project development could begin immediately once approved.

"The Green Energy Group is now waiting for the [request for proposal] to be issued following CNMI procurement regulations. Governor Inos has stated he will help to expedite the issuance of this RFP shortly," states the company statement.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Demapan said that funding for the project will be provided by a U.S.-based partner company that will refinance the project.

When asked what companies comprise the Green Energy Group, Demapan said that these

are Green Pacific Co. Ltd and the Green Globe Solution—the same company that earlier proposed a smaller scale of the same project. A Japanese company is also said to be a member of the group.

Demapan disclosed that the group will propose up to 25 years for the project.

Once approved and built, Demapan claimed that power customers will see a 30-percent drop in their utility billings.

Demapan pointed out that the lack of reliable, affordable electric power impacts investments in the Commonwealth. "The CNMI's aging power generation facilities, coupled with the rising cost of fossil-fueled power, has placed an increased economic burden on the people

of the CNMI for more than a decade. Businesses have also been adversely affected, as they have been forced to curtail operations," he said.

Press secretary Angel A. Demapan confirmed yesterday the group's meeting with the governor on Friday.

"They discussed their proposal with Gov. Inos and Lt. Gov. Hofschneider. While the administration welcomes such needed investments here, the governor and lieutenant governor pointed out that an RFP will first be issued and opened up for all other interested parties. Green Globe Solutions is more than welcome to submit their proposal for consideration once the RFP is announced," said Demapan.

From April 2012 through

March 2013, CUC generated a monthly capacity of 74.9MW and recorded a peak demand of 35.30MW, leaving the agency with 112 percent reserve margin or extra generation capacity for unanticipated incidents when power plants are forced to shut down.

Settlement conference in Taylor suit vs Buckingham is approved

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan Jr. granted Tuesday the request to hold a settlement conference in the age discrimination lawsuit filed by a former CNMI government lawyer against former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham.

Manibusan set the settlement conference in James William Taylor's lawsuit for Aug. 1, 2013 at 9am.

Unless a party is proceeding *pro se* (without a lawyer), the attorney attending the settlement conference must be the lead trial counsel, said Manibusan.

"All parties or the party's representative to the litigation must attend the settlement conference, and a representative with unrestricted settlement authority must appear on behalf of corporations and other business entities," Manibusan said.

In cases involving insurance, he said, a representative with unrestricted settlement authority must appear on behalf of the insurance company.

He directed each party to submit a confidential settlement letter by July 30, 2013.

Taylor, a retired U.S. Air Force officer, filed the lawsuit against Buckingham, the CNMI government and the Office of the Attorney General.

Taylor claimed that Buckingham fired him in 2011 without following proper procedures to save on cost and in retaliation for his advice against the approval of some sole-source contracts.

Taylor is a citizen of the state of Washington.

In his defenses, Buckingham asserted, among other things, that Taylor's claims are barred, in whole or in part, because they were not timely filed.

In the OAG's motion to dismiss, assistant attorney general Reena J. Patel asserted, among other things, that Taylor had not stated sufficient facts to support his Age Discrimination in Employment Act claim as his complaint alleges that cost savings, rather than age, motivated the alleged adverse action.

The government lawyer conceded that Taylor's resignation was involuntary and was, in fact, a discharge. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Covenant to endorse Kilili anew

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Covenant Party campaign chair Oscar M. Babauta said yesterday that the party will once again endorse the re-election of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) in the 2014 elections, instead of fielding their own delegate bet.

Babauta, at the same time, said Gov. Eloy S. Inos, the titular head of the Covenant Party, will formally declare his candidacy for governor around September.

In the 2012 elections, then lieutenant governor Inos and the whole Covenant Party also endorsed Sablan's candidacy.

Sablan is the CNMI's first and so far only nonvoting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Babauta, also a potential senatorial bet in 2014, said the Covenant Party will continue to coalesce with the so-called Independent Republicans or simply "Independents," like what they

did in the 2012 elections that defeated most of former governor Benigno R. Fitial's candidates.

This means the Covenant Party will reserve slots for Independent candidates in each precinct.

Besides Inos, at least three other potential candidates' names have been floating around—former speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider, Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), and businessman Joe Ayuyu.

Inos became the CNMI's first un-elected lieutenant governor in April 2009 when Fitial appointed him to succeed then lieutenant governor Timothy P. Villagomez who resigned from office in 2009, following his conviction on federal criminal charges related to fraud. In the following election, Fitial sought re-election and Inos ran with him.

On Feb. 20, 2013, Inos became the first CNMI governor to ascend to the post without being elected, when Fitial stepped down days after the House impeached him on 18 charges.

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Anti-China protest draws over 100

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Wearing yellow T-shirts, more than a hundred took part in yesterday's "Peaceful Global Day of Protest and Prayer against China's Invasion of the Philippines."

The rally was organized by the US Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas Chapter, together with similar events in other countries with sizeable Filipino populations like the Philippines, Australia, and California in the U.S. mainland.

USP4GG Marianas Chapter

chair Dr. Cecilia Lamkin said she was pleasantly surprised that they were able to double their initial estimate of 50 people participating in the rally.

"There were 100 participants comprising senior citizens, youth from age 3, foreign workers, students, permanent residents, U.S. citizens, and religious groups," she said.

More importantly, Lamkin said, was the message heard by those who attended the rally.

"We have brought awareness to the local and global community that Filipinos on Saipan and the rest of the CNMI can be united to protest against the illegal and unjust invasion of our West Philippine Sea. We also had the global prayer for

peace and a just resolution of this dispute."

Lamkin spoke about the wealth of oil, natural gas, and marine resources beneath the West Philippine Sea that China is claiming for its own.

"The rally showed that Filipino people condemn the aggression and bullying of China by claiming illegally the territories that belong to the Philippines," she said.

Others who also spoke at the rally were U.P. Alumni Association Saipan and civic leader Fe Calixterio, Laguna Association of Guam former president Nancy Baldoz, and USP4GG volunteer Rosendo Maceda.

Calixterio called for a boycott of Chinese products and urged Filipinos to welcome allies like the U.S., saying that asking for

help from Uncle Sam is the only way to counter a superpower like China.

Baldoz encouraged Filipinos in the Marianas to continue to speak out against China's territorial ambitions in the region.

Leaders of numerous churches also read their messages during the gathering, including pastors Brendan Perez, Noel Puno, Alvaro Samonte, Tony Gelua, and Danny Ibanez.

USP4GG and Global Filipinos Diaspora Council chair attorney Loida Nicolas Lewis also sent a message that was read to those at the rally. Those in attendance also sang Filipino patriotic songs and waved to motorists while holding placards condemning China's territorial encroachment.

CREDIT

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national Airport, Inos described as "very minimal" the amount that is left in the union's bank account, based on his preliminary review.

"We just received the draft audit report and we're going over it. Once finalized, we will have a better idea how to move forward. [But] definitely, we have to make a policy decision on what we want to do with the credit union," Inos said.

Based on his initial review, Inos found that not a single member is investing in the program anymore. It has a long list of delinquent borrowers, of whom only a few are paying their obligations.

Inos said the government will "certainly collect" these receivables from member-borrowers in order to pay the union's unpaid obligation to the NMI Retirement Fund and shareholders.

Saipan Tribune learned that the union's biggest challenge is its delinquent loans, which totals some \$575,000.

According to press secretary Angel A. Demapan, who is also the board chairman of the credit union, the draft audit bared that there's only over \$60,000 left in the union's account.

For Inos, this "very minimal" amount is only enough to pay for the union's operating cost, which he said, is also being supplemented by current payments received from some loans.

It was earlier disclosed that

about 300 members have pending requests to withdraw their contributions from the union. However, refunds were not permitted since last year until an audit is completed. It was found that the organization has never had any audit since 2008. The draft audit report represents three fiscal years including 2009, 2010, 2011.

Since it appears that union account does not have enough money left to pay all refunds requests, the governor hinted at tapping the general fund to pay for this obligation.

"[Because the credit union was created by law], the general fund probably has to absorb it at some point. No one is hardly paying anymore into the fund by way of investment or shares and for those folks who owe

money to the union, there's only a handful that are paying the loans. We have a mix of issues that we need to handle at the credit union," Inos told *Saipan Tribune*.

Demapan, however, assured that all members will get their money back before a decision is made on the fate of the program.

Once the audit is finalized, Demapan said the board will put together a plan of action.

"Whatever decision we make, we're assuring our members that we will pay them. We will do whatever we can to secure the funding. We need to make sure that before we take a final action, all members get paid," added Demapan.

The governor had earlier hinted at having the program abolished.

CASINO

From Page 1

sioner alone is \$60,000.

Rota Legislative Delegation chair Rep. Teresita Santos (R-Rota) told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the outstanding debt to commissioners alone is \$561,000, in addition to its unpaid obligations to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation of \$290,000, as well as unpaid operating expenses.

"So it could be up to a \$1 million," Santos said.

While there is no Rota casino industry to speak of, Santos said the municipality of Rota and taxpayers "continue to incur debt for salaries, supplies, telephone, power and water bills, etc."

Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), chairman of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, once again reminded the Rota delegation's unpaid debt to the Saipan delegation.

At the same time, Santos pre-filed yesterday a local bill amending the Rota Casino Act of 2007 to reduce the number of Rota casino commissioners from five to four, and reduce the annual \$60,000 compensation for each commissioner to the same amount paid to board members of government corporations and councils, which is generally less than \$100 per whole day or eight-hour board meeting.

Santos said once her House

Local Bill 18-22 meets the three legislative days requirement, the Rota Legislative Delegation will be conducting an island-wide public hearing on it.

"In doing so, the people and electorates of Rota will be provided the opportunity to comment and/or make recommendation as to the merits of the local bill," she added.

Santos said minimizing operational costs should be a priority, especially in time of financial difficulties.

In her bill, Santos said "as of to date, the outstanding debt owed to members of the Rota Casino Gaming Commission for their salaries and the commission's operating expenses is in excess of \$850,000."

This does not include the Rota delegation's debt to the Saipan legislative delegation.

"This debt is a great burden to the Rota municipality as well as the Rota taxpayers," Santos said.

Under her proposal, commissioners will be compensated the same way as board members of government corporations and councils.

"However, when a casino is in full operation on Rota, the Rota Legislative Delegation may elect to compensate each member of the commission on an annual basis not to exceed \$25,000 per annum," Santos said.

The bill also changes from five to three commissioners being present a quorum and majority to determine any action of the gaming commission.

LABOR

From Page 1

Candoleta conceded that not too many workers in the CNMI know the presence of the U.S. Labor's Wage and Hour Division office on Saipan and they now want to make their presence more widely felt, especially with the ombudsman's office closing.

However, he has yet to meet with U.S. Department of the Interior officials on the matter.

"Once we meet with them and we have a better understanding of what our office can do to ease the closure of that office, and to maybe make employees aware that we exist and that if they have a wage issue, that they know who to call, we will be letting the public know," Candoleta said in an interview after a presentation for the NMI Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management on the final rule on the Family and Medical Leave Act.

Acting Interior assistant secretary Eileen Soback, who is currently on Saipan, said she's meeting with agencies that the

ombudsman's office works with on a regular basis in preparation for the latter's closure. Those agencies include the U.S. Labor's Wage and Hour Division.

"As I was made aware by my staff here on the ground, not many employees know that we're here and not many employees know that they can come to us directly without first going through the ombudsman's office if they have any wage complaint issues that we can help them with. As soon as we meet with the Interior officials we want to make sure that we inform the public and let them know this is our plan moving forward," Candoleta said.

Since 1999, the ombudsman's office has helped refer to CNMI and federal agencies thousands of foreign workers who were victims of labor abuses, human trafficking, sex trafficking, illegal recruitment, wage theft, contract violations, rape, assault and battery, false imprisonment and torture, among other things.

U.S. Labor's Wage and Hour Division could pick up the slack for the ombudsman's office but there are limitations on the assistance that the division could

provide.

For example, only most of those employed by employers making \$500,000 or more a year can be assisted when they are not paid the federal minimum wage and not paid overtime under the Federal Labor Standards Act.

"Or if it's a small employer but the employees are engaged in activity of commerce, in other words retail establishment that processes credit cards or preparing goods for shipment off island, then we can cover them individually even if the employer is not covered," Candoleta said.

Candoleta said the most important thing is to "make sure that employees know that they can come to us."

"If we're not able to help them, either they are not covered or if it's something outside of our jurisdiction, we will let them know that. But we want to make sure that many employees know that we are here and they can come to us and we will make that determination. We don't want employees to be afraid or shy [to come to us]," he said.

costs to provide such services, I would like to know if CUC is cutting costs and streamlining its expenses before the rates are increased," Torres told Guerrero.

The Senate president asked the CPUC chairman four sets of questions, including the salaries of CUC's top officials such as the executive director, the deputy director and the division director; who determines the salary of top officials; how many new trucks, other vehicles and equipment were bought in the last three years, how much each costs, and what funds were

used to buy them; and how much CUC is spending on its call center.

CUC's \$1.50 online payment fee

In his letter, Torres said that although CUC customer service moved to a bigger office and set up an online payment system, there are still a lot of customers who pay their bills in person.

As a result, he said, the payment lines are still long due to the number of available cashiers at certain times.

At the same time, the Senate president slammed CUC's

\$1.50 charge for online payments.

Torres said IT&E and Marianas Cable Vision provide online payment services "for free" while CUC charges \$1.50, which is separate from the cost of the utilities.

"CUC is profiting from its customers who are already suffering with high utility bills," he said.

The Senate president said CUC's proposed rate increase will adversely affect residential and commercial consumers upon its implementation.

"CUC is a not-for-profit government agency and it should

not be allowed to make a profit or increase rates to pay for high salaries, luxury vehicles, and other items that are not required or needed by CUC. If CUC needs to generate or save for capital improvements, it should consider forgoing needed expenses like the call center, high salaries, vehicles and other expenses," he added.

He also urged CUC to reassess its current power generating plants and facilities, which are increasingly costly to operate and maintain due to the wear and tear inefficiencies.

Torres urged expediting the

RFP to develop renewable energy mix power plants for the CNMI under a full privatization scheme to allow for an immediate decrease in power rates.

House Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications Committee chair Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) also prefiled a resolution urging Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofshneider to compel CUC to expedite the release of an RFP for the development of renewable energy sources in the CNMI.

The House may adopt the resolution during its next session tentatively set for Friday.

CPUC

From Page 1

sion be made through the RFP process. Governor Inos will be meeting with CUC in the coming days to discuss this matter," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Torres, in a two-page letter to CPUC chair Joseph C. Guerrero, asked the commission to investigate CUC expenses, on the heels of CUC's petition to increase its electric, water and wastewater rates.

"While I do understand CUC's need to recover its

Inos impressed with breadfruit's potential as industry driver

Gov. Eloy S. Inos came away impressed after listening to University of Hawaii Pacific Business Center Program director

Dr. Tusi Avegalio's presentation on the potential of the breadfruit

Bail of repeat offender boosted to \$200K

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed yesterday a \$200,000 cash bail—double the previous amount—against a repeat offender who was arrested again for allegedly sexually abusing a then 16-year-old girl thrice in 2009.

Alfredo Evangelista Reyes, 51, through assistant public defender Eden Schwartz, had asked the court to modify the \$100,000 cash bail by allowing him to use his mother's land as property bond.

Assistant attorney general Chermere McField opposed the motion and told the court about the defendant's long criminal history.

Camacho denied the motion and instead increased the \$100,000 cash bail to \$200,000 cash.

Camacho determined that Reyes poses danger to the community based on his long criminal history and the allegations in

the current case.

The judge noted that Reyes' criminal history includes firearms and other violent crimes that stretch all way back to 1981.

Even Reyes' own mother, who is the proposed third party custodian, was also his victim in a past assault case, Camacho said. He then ruled that the mother is not suitable as third party custodian.

Police arrested Reyes on July 13.

Police detective Therese S. Kintoki stated in her report that the Department of Public Safety started the investigation last June 10 after a social worker at the Domestic Violence Intervention Center reported a sexual assault case.

Kintoki said the alleged victim told her mother about the sexual abuse only on June 9. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Woman's bid for arrest warrant vs attorney Jorgensen is denied

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona denied yesterday Sally Bauer's request to issue an arrest warrant against attorney Bruce Jorgensen for allegedly not replying to her lawsuit.

Manglona also denied Bauer's request to issue a \$15 million default judgment against Jorgensen.

In denying the requests, the judge said this is a civil matter and that Jorgensen has yet to be served with the lawsuit.

Bauer is reportedly a New York-based woman who claims to have two children fathered by the late multi-millionaire Larry L. Hillblom. The local courts dismissed her claims.

In 2008, she filed a notice of removal of her lawsuit from

the Superior Court to the federal court.

In court papers, Bauer stated she has made extensive attempts over the past few years to retain several attorneys, including Jorgensen, to represent her in federal court.

Last week, Bauer asked the court to issue an arrest warrant against Jorgensen and issue a \$15 million default judgment against him.

Bauer said she has personally served Jorgensen with the lawsuit by mail. She said Jorgensen must comply with the "return reply of an answer" to her and the court.

Saipan Tribune found Bauer's pleadings and complaint against Jorgensen very confusing. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Sizeable crowd expected at Kluge talk tomorrow

P.F. Kluge's "Saipan Then, Saipan Now, Saipan Tomorrow" special presentation tomorrow has created a lot of buzz on island.

The CNMI Humanities Council is already expecting a sizeable crowd for tomorrow's program set from 6pm to 9pm at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Kluge, who is a writer-in-residence at Kenyon College, lived on Saipan from 1967 to 1969 as a Peace Corps volunteer. The novelist, journalist, and professor already gave the Rotary Club of Saipan a preview of what's in store for tomorrow night's audience when he spoke at the organization's weekly meeting last July 16.

He said then that the audience at the Humanities Council event should expect a more adult ver-

sion of his spiel come July 26.

Kluge has returned many times to the island and his visits have generated books and magazine articles involving Saipan.

Aside from writing novels, with the latest *Master Blaster* based on Saipan, he also wrote for the *Wall Street Journal*, *Life Magazine*, and *Playboy*.

The Humanities Council said that Kluge will share what he values about Saipan and what he worries about, reflecting on the past and wondering aloud about the future.

Tickets for "Saipan Then, Saipan Now, Saipan Tomorrow" costs \$25 per person and comes with hors d'oeuvres, beer, and wine.

All proceeds will go to support the Humanities Council's programs and educational initiatives. *(Mark Rabago)*

industry not only in the CNMI but throughout the Pacific.

"As we can see today, we have the right weather and environment to grow breadfruit trees. Gov. Inos lauded this effort as a great way for local farmers to increase business potential," said press secretary Angel Demapan.

He said the breadfruit industry could very well be the industry the CNMI is looking for to supplement its growing tourism industry.

"Taking the breadfruit to a whole new level of production will spell absolute benefits for our farmers and our economy. The governor also noted that the breadfruit is a popular alternative to rice and other starches in daily meals."

As a result of Tuesday morn-

ing's meeting with Avegalio, Demapan said that Inos has instructed the Department of Commerce, Division of Agriculture, and Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service to meet with Avegalio to further discuss the development of a breadfruit industry.

Avegalio was the guest speaker of the weekly meeting of the Saipan Rotary Club on Tuesday.

"I'm here to share with the CNMI government the potential of a breadfruit industry not only here but the whole of the Pacific Islands. We're looking at it in terms of regional development versus an individual island do-

ing its own thing. The governor seemed to be very pleased. First of all it's a local product. Usually, in economic development they're trying to think of importing a part here or there then assembling and sending it. But here we're actually using a local



Avegalio

product that people are familiar with culturally, historically, and nutritionally. It's also good for disaster preparedness. If you depend on food that comes in by ship, what grows on the trees may actually save your life because it's sustainable," he said in an interview after the meeting.

Avegalio said he is looking forward to meeting with CNMI government agencies to develop the local breadfruit industry.

"We need to be able to work with the land grant and agricul-

ture to do an assessment of the potential for growing various varieties of breadfruit here in the CNMI because it's not the breadfruit that will drive the market. It is the byproduct, which is gluten. The breadfruit is gluten-free so we're working with that."

Aside from gluten-free flour, Avegalio said that breadfruit's latex byproduct is also promising.

"Its sap is 100 percent latex. In the commodities market latex is now going for \$1,000 per gallon. Organic latex is moving more exponentially because the latex breathes whereas your synthetic latex does not. This product is very compelling. For example, one acre of breadfruit equates to approximately \$10,000. Latex, which is about 10,000 lbs per acre, can translate to \$120,000," he said. *(Mark Rabago)*

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3:00pm 4:00pm**

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New 'welcome' signs unveiled at the Saipan airport

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Four new "welcome" signs were unveiled yesterday at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport, featuring the image of Gov. Eloy S. Inos and his three grandchildren.

The colorful images are strategically placed at the arrival area and gateways of the airport.

Sponsored by Tasi Tours, company president Fukuju Kazusuke highlighted the importance of conveying a friendly

welcome message to visitors, especially for first-timers to the CNMI.

The larger-than-life images show Inos and his three grandchildren, who are all smiles and wearing islandwear. The young greeters are 5-year-old Mia Yobei, 4-year-old Eloy Thomas Deleon Guerrero, and 7-year-old Gerald John Deleon Guerrero, who were also present at yesterday's unveiling.

Captured by a professional photographer from Japan, the image was taken on Mañaga

Island. The "Welcome" message is written in English, Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Filipino, Russian, Carolinian, and Chamorro.

Inos said the new signs will boost the promotional initiatives of the CNMI to entice more tourists to come. He praised Tasi Tours for continuing its investment in the Commonwealth and for continuing to believe in the CNMI tourism industry.

Inos revealed that Tasi Tours also donated a new stone "Welcome" monument

on Mañaga some two weeks ago. It immediately earned attention and visitors have had their pictures taken with the new welcome sign.

Tasi Tours has been doing business in the Commonwealth for over 30 years and Fukuju said the company is committed to stay longer and expand its services.

Despite the challenging times, Fukuju is optimistic that CNMI tourism will return to its former glory. In fact, he said, the rising trend in arrivals

and hotel occupancy are clear indications of the near positive years for the industry.

According to the governor, Tasi Tours is just among the committed partners of the government in promoting the islands in various countries. He also commended the Marianas Visitors Authority, the Commonwealth Ports Authority, and local tour agents and offices for their great work.

"Let's continue to boost our tourism. We have welcome signs

[to the island] and if we need to do the welcome dance as seen in Honolulu airport, we can do that. Anything that translate to the tourists—our hospitality, our culture, and product—we will do that," said the governor, highlighting the importance of setting a good "first impression" about the island.

According to him, a "personalized welcome greeting" increases the excitement of visitors and establishes a positive note about the destination.

Sex assault charge dropped in case of man who allegedly tried to rape ex-GF

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has dismissed the charge of attempted sexual assault in the first degree filed against Jesus Borja Santos, a 22-year-old man who allegedly tried to rape a former girlfriend.

At a preliminary hearing on Tuesday afternoon, Camacho found no probable cause to believe that the offense of attempted sexual assault in the first degree was committed.

Camacho dismissed the charge without prejudice, which allows the prosecution to re-file the same charge in the future.

Probable cause was found, however, to charge Santos with assault and battery, assault, and disturbing the peace.

Assistant public defender Eden Schwartz served as counsel for Santos.

In dismissing the charge, Camacho ruled that the government failed to prove the elements of attempted sexual assault in the first degree. He pointed out that sexual assault in the first degree requires sexual penetration. He said there was no testimony that Santos tried to sexually penetrate the girl.

Quoting police detective Isapen Bokuku's testimony, Camacho

said all the defendant wanted was to see the former girlfriend's underwear to check if she was having sex with anybody else.

In response to the judge's question, Bokuku said the defendant's clothes were still on at the time.

Camacho gave assistant attorney general Chemere McField an opportunity to amend the information but the prosecutor insisted on pursuing the charge.

The judge then dismissed the charge without prejudice.

Bokuku stated in his report that two police officers responded to a residence on Saipan on July 16 after receiving a call about a rape incident.

When the officers arrived at the house, the victim told police that Santos nearly raped her and that he beat her up in front of their 3-year-old son at her residence in Dandan on July 13.

The victim showed the officers her injuries.

Preliminary police investigation showed that the victim had agreed to meet Santos at a store in San Vicente so she could pick up food for their son.

After buying groceries, they went back to her house. Once inside the house, Santos allegedly pushed her, grabbed her,

and pulled her toward him. Santos allegedly pulled down the victim's pants and underwear to her knees.

The victim pushed Santos and punched his back in order for him to get off her. She also slapped him in the face. The victim was crying and begging Santos to stop. Santos then allegedly started slapping her face, punching, kicking and choking her repeatedly.

When their son came out, Santos yelled at him to go inside the room. The child ran inside the room and hid behind the closet.

The victim later managed to get their son in the car and they sped off to the house of her father in As Matuis. Santos also sped off aboard his car and chased her.

The victim reached her father's house, but Santos proceeded to San Vicente.

The victim's brother later called her, asking what was going on because Santos and his parents were at her house in Dandan.

The brother said that Santos was harassing him, telling him to watch out because he will be killed and sent back to Pohnpei.

When the victim went to her house, Santos and his parents had already left. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

NMC fall 2013 admission application deadline

Those interested in enrolling for the Northern Marianas College's fall 2013 semester will need to submit their application for admission no later than Wednesday, July 31, 2013.

Applications for admission and other forms may be picked up at NMC's Office of Admissions Records located in Building N at the NMC As Terlaje campus, or may be downloaded from www.nmcnet.edu on the fall 2013 registration page.

Supporting documents (i.e., transcripts from institutions previously attended, health evaluation form, and copy of a valid photo I.D.) must be turned in within 60 calendar days of submitting the admission application. Application forms submitted after July 31 will be processed for the following semester.

New students and returning students (those who did not take courses at NMC during the previous semester, spring or summer) are required to attend

a student orientation in order to register for courses. Students must confirm which student orientation they will be attending by contacting the Office of Admissions Records at 234-5498 Ext. 1528/1537.

Online students needing assistance during registration are encouraged to contact Barnaby Lizama, Online Liaison Personnel, at 234-5493 Ext. 1322 or email barnaby.lizama@marianas.edu.

NMC offers several degree programs, including a bachelor of science degree in education (emphasis on elementary education, early childhood education, special education, or rehabilitation and human services), associate degrees in business, business administration (emphasis on accounting, business management, or computer applications), liberal arts, nursing, natural resources management, criminal justice, and hospitality management. Moreover, it offers short-term certificate programs in different vocational, academic, and profes-

IMPORTANT DATES

July 31: Deadline to submit NMC admission application for fall 2013

July 31: Student orientation for new and returning students (9am-11:30am, Room D-1)

Aug. 5: Student orientation for international students (9:30am, NMC Student Center in Building I)

Aug. 7: Student orientation for new and returning students (9am-11:30am, Room D-1)

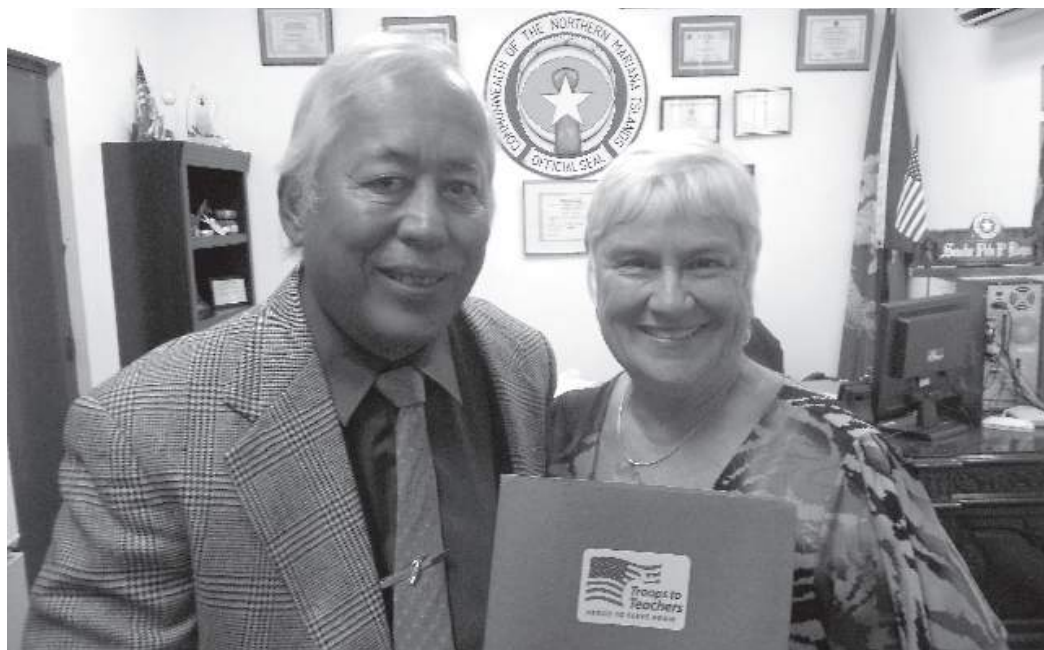
Aug. 8: Registration and add/drop course(s) day for students under disability support services (8:30am-5pm)

Aug. 8: Student orientation for new and returning students (5pm-7:30pm, Room D-1)

Aug. 12-16: Registration for new, returning, online and ongoing students (9am-4pm)

sional areas.

For additional information or inquiries, contact the Office of Admissions and Records at 234-5498 Ext. 1528/1537 or visit www.nmcnet.edu. **(NMC)**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MILITARY ADVOCATE

Sen. Pete P. Reyes discusses the Troops to Teachers program with the CNMI coordinator Geri Willis. Reyes has been a strong advocate for military benefits and programs. He served in Vietnam during the TET Offensive and the Chu Hoi Program.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM- OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

INVITATION TO BID ITB13-GOV-147

Tinian Health Center Medical Equipment

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, are soliciting sealed bids for the Purchase of Medical Equipment for the Tinian Health Center.

The project package will be available Friday, July 26, 2013 at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A \$25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing **no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on August 9, 2013** to Ms. Elizabeth Balajadia of the Capital Improvement Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408.

Sealed bids must be marked **"ITB13-GOV-147"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, August 26, 2013**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. Saipan local time August 26, 2013**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **August 26, 2013** and must be received no later than **September 2, 2013**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, August 27, 2013**. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m. Saipan local time, on August 26, 2013**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid bond of fifteen percent (15 %) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check, Cash or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations NMIAC Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government.

Performance time for completion of this project is sixty (60) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) one hundred dollars (\$100.00), or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by sixty (60) calendar days, the contract time and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF

PROP coordinates response to ESA listing of 66 coral species

The Steering Committee for the Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Partnership, or PROP, met last week in Honolulu, Hawaii. The meeting included a two-day workshop on the proposed listing of 66 reef-building corals under the Endangered Species Act. The proposed listing is cause for concern due to the impact such an expansive listing can have on the state and territories' ability to manage its resources.

The purpose of the workshop was to learn about the ESA and related regulations such as the Magnuson-Stevens Act, Essential Fish Habitat, and Clean Water Act; to share jurisdictional management concerns; and to increase marine resource managers' understanding these of federal mandates.

The workshop included par-

ticipants from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Protected Services Division and Habitat Conservation Division, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Coast Guard, and local and state regulators.

The workshop achieved its objective by starting a conversation about strategies for more effective collaboration with federal agencies.

"If these species are listed," said chair Jesse Souki, "the state and territories will be better able to ensure that its resources are effectively managed for the benefit of current and future generations through specific strategies with federal regulatory partners."

The mission of PROP is to assist the U.S. Pacific Islands Region Governors of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, Guam, and Hawaii identify coastal and ocean management priorities that require a coordinated regional response and increased collaboration to effectively address. The PROP steering committee is composed of four members appointed by the PROP Governors. They are Jesse Souki (chair, HI), Fran Castro (vice chair, CNMI), Dr. Ruth Matagi-Tofiga (AS), and Joseph Artero-Cameron (GU).

Learn more about PROP and its activities at www.facebook.com/pages/Pacific-Regional-Ocean-Partnership/192088610951950, or by contacting Dr. Takiara Ingram, PROP Secretariat, at prop.secretariat@gmail.com. (PROP)

IT&E backs Garapan center's youth camp



IT&E marketing coordinator Brad E. Ruszala presents Garapan Community Development Center Summer Youth Camp program director Joe Diaz and Rep. Edmund Villagomez with the drawstring backpacks that will be given to each of the campers.

IT&E, the Marianas Communications leader, donated 50 drawstring backpacks to the Garapan Community Development Center ahead of the 2nd GCDC Summer Youth Camp. The camp is a two-week program from Monday, July 22, through Friday, Aug. 2, that uses sports to instill the importance of physical fitness and team building.

According to program coordinator Joe Diaz, the backpacks will provide all 50 campers with a great takeaway item from their time at the community center and that programs like the camp are able to flourish with contributions from community partners like IT&E.

"IT&E has always supported

our community center. They provide us with free Internet access and a wireless router that lets our office, our clients, and our kids accomplish a number of tasks. We're happy that they're with us again this year," said Diaz.

IT&E has powered the GCDC and all of the CNMI's youth centers with free high-speed Internet access since 2008. The centers were also upgraded with wireless routers in 2011.

"We opted to install wireless routers so that more of the kids could be online with their PSS-issued netbooks," said IT&E managing director Rose Soledad.

Located in Garapan, the GCDC is not far from the

playground that IT&E dedicated by the Carolinian Utt in October 2012.

IT&E marketing manager Hans Mickelson said the contribution to the GCDC is just the latest in a long line of contributions to the CNMI community.

"We like to partner with community leaders who are dedicated to providing quality services," said Mickelson.

For more information about the GCDC Summer Program, contact Diaz at 285-4141.

For more information about IT&E's coverage and services, contact IT&E Customer Care at 682-4ITE (4483) or visit the IT&E Customer Service on Middle Road. (IT&E)

NOTICE ALL CLIENTS OF THE FEDERAL LABOR OMBUDSMAN

Due to the upcoming closure of the Federal Labor Ombudsman office on September 30, 2013, aliens are advised of the following change in operations of the office.

- As of August 1, 2013, office will be open only on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday with Thursday and Friday for appointments only for clients with active cases that require further assistance of the office prior to our final closure of both the case and the office.
- As of August 15, 2013, no more walk in clients or clients referred by other agencies for assistance will be entertained. Caseworkers will continue to make appointments with clients with open cases to provide as much assistance as possible prior to September 1, 2013.
- Any client with an open case is encouraged to immediately contact the caseworker providing assistance to determine what if anything remains to be done prior to September 1, 2013 in order to reach final resolution of the matter.

We, the staff of the Federal Labor Ombudsman, greatly appreciate your patience and cooperation in this time of transition.

通知所有联邦劳工监察官办公室的客户

由于联邦劳工监察官办公室即将于 2013 年 9 月 30 日关闭，特告示外籍人士关于以下办公室运作服务的变更。

- 从 2013 年 8 月 1 日起，办公室将仅会在周一，周二和周三开门办公。而周四和周五只服务持有仍在开放进行中案件并需要进一步协助的预约客户，直到案件和办公室的最终关闭为止。
- 从 2013 年 8 月 15 日起，不再接待无预约直接上门的或者由其他机构推介的客户。案件工作者们还会继续与现存开放案件的客户们订立预约，并在 2013 年 9 月 1 日前尽可能地提供服务。
- 办公室鼓励任何持有仍在开放进行中案件的客户，立即联系提供协助的案件工作者以确认如有任何遗留问题需要在 2013 年 9 月 1 日前处理完毕，以达到案件的最终解决。

我们，联邦劳工监察官办公室的全体工作人员，非常感谢您在这个过渡时期的耐心与合作。

PAUNAWA SA LAHAT NG KLIYENTE NG FEDERAL LABOR OMBUDSMAN

Dahil sa nalalapit na pagsasara ng tanggapan ng Federal Labor Ombudsman sa Septyembre 30, 2013, kayo ay pinapayuhan sa mga sumusunod na pagbabago sa mga pagpapatakbo ng opisina.

- Simula Agosto 1, 2013, ang opisina ay bukas lamang sa Lunes, Martes, at Miyerkules, ang Huwebes at Biyernes ay para lamang sa appointment ng mga kliyente na may aktibong kaso na nangangailangan ng karagdagang tulong ng opisina bago ang aming pagsasara ng parehong kaso at ng opisina.
- Simula Agosto 15, 2013, hindi na namin maaasikaso ang mga kliyenteng "walk in" o ang mga kliyenteng ini-refer ng iba pang ahensya. Ang mga Caseworkers ay patuloy na gagawa ng appointment sa mga kliyente na may bukas na kaso upang mabigayan ng sapat na tulong hangga't maaari bago ang Septyembre 1, 2013.
- Ang mga kliyente na may bukas pang kaso ay hinihikayat na agad makipag-ugnay sa caseworker na tumutulong sa inyo upang matukoy kung anong mga bagay ang nararapat pang gawin bago ang Septyembre 1, 2013 para sa paglutas ng inyong kaso.

Kami, ang mga tauhan ng Federal Labor Ombudsman, ay lubos na pinahalagahan ang inyong pasensya at pakikipagtulungan sa oras na ito ng pagbabago

Cause of diarrhea outbreak in Kiribati is identified

NOUMEA, New Caledonia—The pathogen causing the diarrhea outbreak currently affecting Kiribati has been identified by Mataika House Laboratory in Fiji yesterday. It is a rotavirus.

"We quickly performed laboratory tests at our national laboratory last week, which ruled out several suspected pathogens like cholera, but we couldn't identify the causative pathogen at home, so we sent samples to our regional reference laboratory in Fiji in order to perform further tests," said Dr Teatoa

Tira, director of Public Health Services, Ministry of Health and Medical Services, Kiribati.

The laboratory diagnosis was made possible through mechanisms put in place by the Pacific Public Health Surveillance Laboratory Network, or LabNet, at Mataika House Laboratory in Fiji, one of the four regional reference laboratories of the network.

"The assistance of Fiji public health Laboratory and LabNet in the rapid identification of the pathogen responsible of this

outbreak is really appreciated," added Tira. "It is instrumental for understanding the outbreak and validating the control measures we have taken."

LabNet is primarily meant to allow Pacific Island countries and territories to access, through a three-tier referral system, high-quality diagnostic services that they cannot afford in-country.

"The Kiribati Ministry of Health's response to this outbreak has been very good. They contacted us very quickly and

Mataika House Laboratory in Fiji has also reacted promptly and efficiently," said Salanieta Elbourne, leader of the Public Health Laboratory Strengthening Team at the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.

LabNet includes three other regional laboratories (in Guam, New Caledonia, and French Polynesia) in addition to the Fiji laboratory, and several international reference laboratories in Pacific rim countries (Australia, New Zealand, and USA) and beyond (France)

that have agreed to provide diagnosis services to Pacific Island countries and territories. The reference laboratories are regularly involved in research activities as well.

Samples from Kiribati patients have also been sent from Mataika House to Victoria Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory in Melbourne, an international reference laboratory for LabNet. This laboratory will perform highly specialized analysis to identify the type of rotavirus responsible for this outbreak.

This information will be used for public health research and policy advice in the region.

SPC's Public Health Division coordinates LabNet activities with financial assistance from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), the New Zealand Aid Programme, France, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Pacific Islands HIV and STI Response Fund. *(Secretariat of the Pacific Community)*

Triple J donates 2013 Accent GLS as TOC hole-in-one prize

To add to the impressive list of prizes already featured in the upcoming 18th Annual Tournament of Champions, Triple J Motors is donating a brand new 2013 Accent GLS as a hole-in-one prize.

"The Tournament of Champions is the premier golf tournament in the CNMI, and the funds raised from it benefit the entire community," said Triple J Motors manager Randy Steele. "We are happy to be a part of this important event."

"Triple J Motors' donation will be a great draw for golfers," said Ben Babauta, tournament director. "We are thankful for the company's donation and commitment to the tournament all these years."

The 18th Annual Tournament of Champions will be played on Aug. 3 and 4 at the LaoLao Bay Golf and Resort's east and west courses.

First place winners in the Men's Championship, A, B, C, Senior and Super Senior Flights will each receive \$500 cash, \$400 for second, \$300 for third, a digital camera to fourth, and \$100 DFS gift certificate for fifth place.

The Ladies Low Gross champion will receive \$500, \$400 for second, and \$300 for third place. The Ladies Low Net first through third places will receive



Triple J Motors manager Ben Lizama, second from left, presents Tournament of Champions representatives the Hyundai Accent GLS as a hole-in-one prize for the upcoming tournament on Aug. 3-4.

a trophy.

There are hundreds of thousands of dollars of possible prizes at stake in the two-day tournament, including hole-

in-one prizes on both the east and west courses that include a Ford Fiesta from Joeten Motors, one year of free golf from Saipan Laolao, two business

class tickets to the U.S. from Delta, a business class ticket to Europe and other non-U.S. destinations from Asiana Airlines, and many more.

The tournament will also be featuring \$1,000 cash prizes for closest to pin competitions.

Since its inception, TOC has given over \$500,000 to

the Saipan Beautification Fund, which has gone directly to the improvements of the tree-lined traffic medians that stretch from Garapan to the former Palm Resort SAIPAN, as well as the revitalization of the Garapan special district. In addition, TOC also contributed funds for the Paseo de Marianas, the lighting of the Saipan Beach Pathway, the beautification of the Port to Park pathway, and the revitalization of Mt. Tapochau.

"We are proud of our continued commitment to enhance the beauty of Saipan for our tourists and residents," Babauta, said. "It is the generous support of our golfers, sponsors and committee members that make this event possible."

Registration for the two-day tournament is \$185, which includes a lunch banquet on the second day. Registration forms can be downloaded from www.tocsaipan.com. Please register before 12pm on Friday, Aug. 2, 2013, by submitting registration form and registration fee at the first floor of the DFS Galleria (next to Foreign Currency counter) or at Saipan Laolao. For more information about the event, contact Babauta at 483-2563 or Marida Pensader at 236-2530. *(TOC)*

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 25, 2005

Telesource dismisses insolvency claims

Power privatization proposer Telesource International Inc. has dismissed as mere "disinformation" the accusation that it is financially unstable. "That's not true. We have survived all these years. All this is disinformation," said Telesource CNMI president K.J. Semikian in an interview Friday. This as sources cited Securities and Exchange Commission documents showing that as of September 2004, Telesource total assets were worth \$25 million while total liabilities including the long term debt, accrued expenses and losses in progress

reached \$44.7 million.

Changes in power privatization bidding process urged

With only two months to go before the completion of the government's power plant privatization, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce has urged the Babauta administration to modify the bidding process and do away with committing the CNMI to 20-year contract with an independent power producer. Chamber president Alex Sablan, in a letter to Gov. Juan N. Babauta, recommended that the government shift to an IPP request-for-proposal process to contract privatization for operations and

management costs only. The current process entails an IPP taking over and rehabilitating the Lower Base power plant, and installing two 15-megawatt generators, among other things.

July 25, 2006

Japan arrivals down 26 percent

Arrivals from Japan continued its steep decline, with the latest data showing a 26-percent drop in June this year. Marianas Visitors Authority data showed there were 22,403 visitors from Japan last month. During the same month last year, the CNMI welcomed 30,469 Japanese tourists. The MVA attributes this decline to the pullout of Japan Airlines in October 2005. On the positive side, the Korean market showed a 48-percent increase in arrivals last month. From 5,015 in June 2005, the number of tourists from Korea went up to 7,440 last month.

'Security concern in Docomo deal is farfetched'

Any notion that the security of the United States or Guam will be jeopardized by the presence of Japan's NTT DoCoMo Inc. in the Marianas "is farfetched," according to Resident Representative to the U.S. Pedro A. Tenorio. Although partially owned by the Japanese government, NTT DoCoMo is "a respectable Japanese company," Tenorio said. NTT DoCoMo is seeking approval from the Federal Communications Commission to buy Guam Cellular and Paging Inc. and Guam Wireless Telephone Co. LLC for \$71.8 million. It plans to merge both companies.

July 25, 2007

'Hardline stance on asylum issue imperils NMI tourism'

The Commonwealth of the

Northern Mariana Islands might as well kiss its tourism goodbye unless it softens its stance in dealing with the federal government in implementing the asylum program. "If the CNMI will not cooperate so that we can ensure that the CNMI-only system is functioning properly, then we may have no choice but to apply the U.S. asylum system to the CNMI," said Interior Department's deputy assistant secretary David B. Cohen. Once the federal government takes over the Refugee Protection Program, then the U.S. Department of Homeland Security will also have to take total control of immigration.

Wage hike goes into effect today

The first round of federal minimum wage hikes takes effect today, requiring all employers in the CNMI to raise their minimum wage by 50 cents or from

\$3.05 an hour to \$3.55 an hour. "It's a sad and hard day for many businesses," said Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Juan T. Guerrero in an interview yesterday. He advised businesses to get help immediately, either from the U.S. Labor office or the CNMI Department of Labor, on how the wage hike applies to them. "If you need clarification, make sure to call the concerned department," he said. The minimum wage hike also applies to American Samoa, which took effect yesterday. Guerrero said that CNMI employers have no choice but to comply with the federal minimum wage. "As an employer, I'd like to comply with the federal minimum wage. I want to make sure that my employees are taken cared for. We are already prepared for this adjustment so effective [July 25], anybody working below the set minimum wage will be getting 50 cents increase," he said.

Notice to potentially affected NMC faculty out

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Although no formal action has been taken yet by the Board of Regents, the Northern Marianas College leadership seems confident in the adoption of its proposed creation of a faculty qualifications policy following the issuance of “advance notices” to potentially affected faculty members.

On the regents’ table for consideration is a proposal to set a minimum standard in hiring instructional faculty, pursuant to the will of the accreditation commission.

Under the proposal, NMC will give primary consideration to the highest earned degree in the discipline that the faculty member will teach. Other factors are competence, effectiveness, and capacity such as related work experience in the field, professional licensure and certifications, honors and awards. Other documented evidence of competencies and achievement that contribute to effective teaching and student learning outcomes will also be factored in.

For general education courses, baccalaureate courses, and associate’s degree courses designed for transfer into a baccalaureate degree, NMC will require at a minimum a master’s degree in the teaching discipline or a master’s degree in another discipline with

at least 18 graduate semester hours in the field.

For associate degree courses not designed for transfer into a baccalaureate degree, the proposed minimum degree requirement is a bachelor’s degree in the field of instruction.

Meantime, for clinical instruction in the nursing department, one must possess a bachelor’s degree in nursing.

The ultimate arbiter of qualification of a faculty member is the chairperson of the department.

Saipan Tribune learned that some faculty members who will possibly be impacted by the proposed policy were issued advance notices by the dean of Academic Services, Barbara Merfalen.

NMC has about 27 instructional faculty members, of which a third is expected to be impacted by the new policy, which will be enforced starting in the fall 2013 semester.

Potentially affected faculty members who were identified in advance by the college were informed through letters last week of the possibility of transferring them to other areas of the college.

While on summer break, these potentially impacted members were also encouraged, if they want, to take

needed courses through WICHE member institutions to avail of reduced tuition. The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education is a regional, nonprofit organization with 16 member states working to improve access to higher education.

In one of the advanced notices issued, Merfalen states: “To be clear, the Board of Regents has not yet adopted the proposed policy on Academic Faculty Qualifications, and your representatives on the College Council have been asked to solicit your input. We just wanted to give you as much advance notice of the possibility that you may be impacted, especially because you may still have time to take preventative action if you have completed some or all of the necessary coursework.”

Merfalen said that NMC is making the advance notification since the concerned employees’ decision will affect the college recruitment activities for fall 2013.

The “draft” policy was created in consultation with the ad-hoc committee, the president, with input from the Association of Community College Trustees and Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges.

» BOR expected to act on proposed academic faculty qualifications policy



EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT MANAGER

Our Resort is looking for a dynamic candidate with a strong and all around experience in Hotel operations. The Executive Assistant Manager shall assist the General Manager in developing and executing business plans and will be responsible for keeping a perfect coordination between all departments with focus on guest satisfaction, development of people, financial results and quality assurance.

- As the Executive Assistant Manager, the responsibilities include but are not limited to:
- Assisting in the day-to-day management of the Resort and its staff, budgeting and financial management, planning, organizing and directing of all Resort services, including Front Office, (reception, concierge, reservations), Food and Beverage, Housekeeping and Engineering functions
 - Writing and reviewing reports, monitoring department operations, ordering inventory, and conducting operations/service reviews
 - Regular ongoing monitoring of staff to ensure the adherence to pre-established policies and procedures and find ways to address problems and improve guest services
 - Daily property inspections and interaction with everyone from employees to management to guests and other stakeholders

Qualifications:

- Minimum Education: Associate’s Degree preferably in Tourism, Hotel & Restaurant or Business Management
- Minimum Experience: Two years of experience in a similar role or in a high volume hospitality environment at a managerial level in Rooms Reservations, Front Office or F&B operations
- Ability to work flexible hours including nights, weekends, and holidays
- Must possess strong leadership and communication skills. Organized, motivated, analytical and creative, as well as comfortable in directing others
- Must be proficient in various computer software applications and has a proven track record of meeting budgets, an understanding of P&L statements and cost/inventory control

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application Forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our Resort. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than August 31, 2013. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort, Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

880 Duty Free is inviting qualified U.S. workers to fill the following positions:

Administrative Assistant (01)
Job Duties: Perform a variety of tasks related to the administrative support of the retail outlet such as: assist with Management team and needs of employees. Manage cash management processes. Maintain safe work environment. Mentor others in the performance of their job duties. Communicate effectively with all contacts. Accept and adapt easily to change. Support all company policies and procedures. Complies with all governmental agency rules and regulations. Ensure that all activities are consistent with company mission statement. Operate job-related equipment and meet physical demands of job with or without accommodation. Other duties as assigned from time to time.
Requirements: Prior experience preferred. Knowledge of standard office equipments. Knowledge in basic arithmetic. Flexibility to perform assigned tasks independently or as part of a team. Well-developed keyboarding skills and 10-key skills. Sense of urgency. Ability to manage multiple priorities and meet frequent short timeline goals and deadlines. Possess superb customer service and communication skills. English and Chinese speaking preferred.

General Manager (01)
Job Duties: Responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the store; following and supporting Company policies and procedures; ensuring that sales, profitability, and customer service targets are met; and ensuring that the most suitable products and services are available to the customer. Identifies and prioritizes business needs to strategically schedule self and staff. Manages hiring, developing, training and motivating quality staff. Conduct performance appraisals and oversees conflict resolutions. Respond to customer inquiries and concerns. Prepare and submit reports as requested. Maintain highest level of honesty, integrity, ethical and moral conduct at all times. Enforces company policies. Maintain safe working environment. Mentor employees with their job performances. Operate job-related equipment and meet physical demands of job with or without accommodation. Other duties as assigned.
Requirements: 5+ years experience in retail as general manager of high-volume (\$10 million+ annual sales). Bachelor's degree in appropriate field or equivalent experience. Basic reading, writing and math skills. Able to understand and communicate with verbal and written instructions. Well-developed ability to make appropriate decisions in stressful situations. Able to work variable shifts, including days, evenings, weekends, and holidays. Knowledge of standard office equipments. Excellent customer service skills. English and Chinese speaking preferred.

Inventory Planner (01)
Job Duties: Ensure appropriate inventory levels by location in order to maximize sales. Provide support by executing inventory investment to an agreed to assortment and sales targets. Build strong relationships with Merchants, Operation team and providing consistent, clear and pertinent communication. Allocate merchandise from Warehouse to Store. Set-up and maintain distribution requirements by store and corresponding assortment. Maintain parameters: lead-times, order cycles, service levels, forecasts, presentation and profiles, history exceptions, promotional events. Maintain a clean, consistent and organized database. Achieve agreed upon In Stock targets. Research and resolve SKU/Location issues. Manage distribution of discontinued and/or end of seasonal merchandise to effectively liquidate the inventory. Identify and action stock issues to maintain sales and presentation needs in the locations.
Requirements: 1-3 years planning/distribution experience. Knowledge and merchandising analysis and systems. Interpersonal savvy. Must have skills in analytical, functional and technical, written communication. Excellent customer service skills. Knowledge of standard office equipments. English and Chinese speaking preferred.

Logistics Assistant (03)
Job Duties: Perform a variety of tasks related to receiving merchandise and maintaining the retail outlet's inventory management system. Supervise the receiving and unloading of shipments of various deliveries. Match carton counts to packing slips, invoices or other documents. Inspect boxes for visual damages. Ensure the team follows up on credit requests with shipping company or vendor. Notify Corporate Allocations department on damages, short shipped or delayed product. Maintain receiving logs. Pack and ship product to other locations as requested by the corporate offices. Communicate with vendor in regards to mis-shipped or substituted items to be returned. Verify all items scan into stores POS before sending to departments for processing. Close out all receiving documents on a daily basis Oversee the entry of all department Purchase Orders into the PO Management System. Notify Department Managers of any Non Approved items on PO's. Responsible for training all receiving employees on proper receiving procedures and update team as new processes are implemented or modified. Coach and counsel receiving employees regarding their job duties. Communicate effectively with all Store Prepare and submit reports as requested. Maintain safe work environment. Support all Company policies and procedures. Other duties and responsibilities as needed.
Requirements: High school diploma. Some college a plus. 2+ years retail experience. 1-2 years of prior working experience in similar fields. Prior supervisory experience. Prior retail experience preferred but not required. Knowledge of standard office equipments. Excellent customer service skills. Flexibility to perform assigned tasks independently or as part of a work team. Sense of urgency and ability to meet frequent short timeline goals and deadlines. Able to understand and communicate verbal and written instructions. Able to work variable shifts, including days, evenings, weekends, and holidays. English and Chinese speaking preferred.

Merchandiser (02)
Job Duties: Develop brand, classification and item vision to support Asian demographic profiles through acquisition, development and management of local vendors; set and follow through annual and seasonal objectives for each business and Vendor. Build cross-international office, one-vision assortments that support strategic, targeted, regional, demographic merchandising vision and are relevant (productive & profitable) oversee direct assortment planning that effectively addresses and delivers product; responsible for Floor planning as it relates to vendor space planning; manage and maintain in-store signage.
Requirements: Bachelor's Degree or equivalent in Business management, Business administration Marketing or relevant field; Between 5 and 8 years merchandising experience in a fast paced, results driven organization; Excellent knowledge of product, domestic and international markets and brand negotiations; Ability to operate with complexity of time zone differences with strong communication skills and flexibility. Strong analytical skills and ability to communicate in a clear & concise manner; Passion for excellence demonstrated through results; Strong interpersonal skills, highly organized with strong attention to detail; solution based, energetic and team oriented; Strong computer skills – Intermediate to Advanced knowledge of Excel, Word and Power Point. English and Chinese speaking preferred.

Sales Associate: 33 full-time, 16 part-time
Job Duties: Persuade a customer to buy a product. Greet customers and ascertain what each customer wants or needs. Promote prompt and courteous service with a smile. Maintain a neat and tidy store. Replenish and tag merchandise. Arrange merchandise in the store floor. Enters purchases into cash register to calculate total purchases. Balances cash drawer and receipts, documents, discrepancies. Accepts cash, checks or bank cards for payment, completes check and bank card transactions according to established procedure.
Requirements: High school graduate for equivalent. Prior experience preferred. Knowledge of basic arithmetic. Well-developed keyboarding skills. Ability to manage multiple priorities and meet frequent short timeline goals and deadlines. English and Chinese speaking preferred.

Store Manager (02)
Job Duties: Identifies and prioritizes business needs to strategically schedule self and staff. Manages turnover by hiring, developing, training, and motivating quality staff. Communicates effectively with all contacts. Promotes open communication and assists staff with conflict resolution. Implements and monitors the effectiveness of inventory and cash controls procedures. Responds to customer inquiries and concerns. Ensures that appropriate products are available and effectively merchandised. Ensures that standards for quality, customer service, health, and safety are met. Prepares and submits reports as requested. Maintains the highest level of honesty, integrity, ethical and moral conduct at all times. Conscientiously strives to meet or exceed budgetary goals, understands how to achieve sales increases while maintaining expense controls. Enforces company policies consistently with all associates while providing leadership and maintaining management integrity. Other duties as needed to meet business needs.
Requirements: 5+ years retail experience with at least 3 years experience as store assistant or department manager. Bachelor's degree in appropriate field or equivalent experience. Basic reading, writing, and math skills. Basic keyboarding and personal computer skills. Well-developed written and verbal communication skills. Able to understand and communicate verbal and written instructions. Well-developed ability to make appropriate decisions in stressful situations. Able to work variable shifts, including days, evenings, weekends, and holidays. Knowledge of standard office equipments. English and Chinese speaking preferred.

Retail Supervisor (05)
Job Duties: Responsible for assisting the Store Manager with managing the day-to-day operations; following Company policies and procedures; ensuring that sales, and customer service targets are met. Maintains operations for an assigned shift and may function as the shift manager. Align the customer experience to the company vision – 'Exceptional People Delivering Exceptional Product'. Drive sales, clearance, promotions and incentive targets with passion. Focus on ways to increase and continually improve; ensure a high energy, positive floor experience for staff and customers. Effectively communicate the company objectives to Team Leads and Sales Associates. Review sales productivity and individual sales team member's performance on a regular basis. Create and promote a positive work environment in line with Tan Holdings values. Provide effective team leadership through open communication, training, coaching and active encouragement to meet and exceed goals.
Requirements: 2+ years retail experience. Basic reading, writing, and math skills. Basic keyboarding and personal computer skills. Able to understand and communicate verbal and written instructions. Able to work variable shifts, including days, evenings, weekends, and holidays. Knowledge of standard office equipments. English and Chinese speaking preferred.

Visual Merchandiser (01)
Job Duties: Drive branding and business objectives/sales through excellent execution of visual merchandising and presentation. Utilize all company tools, visual talent, and knowledge to plan, map, and execute monthly floor sets incorporating appropriate store specific adaptations as necessary. Develop and implement brand appropriate solutions to address these unique needs. In partnership with store management, continually analyze and respond to business/selling trends, assortment needs, and guest feedback-proactively adapt merchandising and presentations as needed. Ensure all signage and graphics are installed and maintained to company standards. Maintain two-way communication with appropriate partners regarding visual merchandising and store maintenance. Actively participate in store-related meetings, training sessions, and store visits. Reference, share, and apply product knowledge information on an ongoing basis. Maintain neat, orderly, and accessible, prop and sign storage areas. Participate in cleaning and upkeep of the physical store at the direction of store management. Other duties and responsibilities as needed.
Requirements: College degree preferred. Minimum of 2 years experience in visual merchandising and presentation. Specialty retailer preferred. Strong demonstrated visual merchandising/presentation skills-detail oriented and self-motivated to execute to the highest standards. Knowledgeable of current fashion and visual merchandising trends and able to effectively interpret/apply to our brand. Proficient with basic computer programs (Word, Excel, Outlook), digital photography, and basic photo software. Strong interpersonal skills. Able to articulate and explain ideas and concepts. Excellent customer service skills. Strong time management skills. Ability to set and achieve goals in a timely manner. Strong organizational and process planning skills. English and Chinese speaking preferred.

Salary will be paid and positions will be filled commensurate with qualification, work experience and ability to perform. Worksite locations are on Saipan, Tinian and at all 880 Duty Free and Century Tours, Inc. offices. Applications may be obtained at the Kanoa Resort on Beach Road in Susupe, Saipan while resumes may be emailed at camille.orallo@saipan.travel. All resumes and applications must be submitted to the Human Resources Department at the Century Tours, Inc. Front Office no later than Thursday, July 25, 2013. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

*We are an Equal Employment Employer.
Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.*

Opinion

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EDITORIAL

China's controlled descent

One of the most important economic stories of the era is unfolding in China, and every American should hope for a happy ending.

The world's second-largest economy is slowing down from its 30-year dash. A formula based on exports, cheap credit, heavy manufacturing and infrastructure investment has run its course—after, it should be noted, helping to lift hundreds of millions of people out of poverty.

China's economy grew 7.5 percent in the second quarter this year, far below the double-digit gains of the recent past. Clued-in economists such as Zhiwei Zhang at Nomura predict that growth will fall below 7 percent in 2014.

When China slows, the world feels it. To an extent, business activity in the U.S., Europe and Japan will be constrained. That might sound like a problem, but it could turn out to be a big plus in the long run. Here's why:

China is embarking on an ambitious plan to overhaul its giant economy and provide for sustainable growth in the future. Its leaders recognize that the Asian giant needs to be rebalanced so that consumer spending and domestic demand set the pace. China's economy must consume more of what it produces. It needs an economy, in other words, more like ours.

To achieve that end, the country that gave us Mao Zedong's communist revolution has to embrace free markets. It has to allow its currency to float more freely based on economic conditions. It has to allow its interest rates for loans and deposits to rise and fall. Protected sectors of its economy have to be opened. Any workable new formula will involve greater competition, and less state control.

There is no blueprint to follow. This isn't like replicating an American factory, or copying a Chicago-style skyscraper. Beijing's policy pronouncements so far have been broad and general: Chinese officials, for instance, have said they want to clamp down on unregulated lending, but also keep plenty of capital flowing.

The details will be tricky to implement, especially given a huge expansion in Chinese debt over the past five years. On Friday, China scrapped some controls over interest rates on bank lending. It was a modest step in the right direction.

A lot of Americans, egged on by U.S. pols, will be tempted to root against China. It is, after all, a rival on the world stage. A Pew Research Center survey conducted in 39 countries uncovered the common belief that China eventually will overtake the U.S. as the leading superpower. The survey, released Thursday, also showed that many Americans view China less favorably than they did just a couple of years ago. Around the world, China's growing military strength raises alarms.

Keep in mind, however, the difficulties that would arise if China's economy were to suffer a hard fall from its lofty heights. Those who wish for bank failures and economic stagnation to knock this rising power down to size fail to consider the damage that would be done to economies around the world, including ours. American companies, from General Motors to Wal-Mart, have much to gain if China can make a successful transition to a more market-driven, consumer-friendly economy.

So far, the drop in China's growth rate has been a controlled descent. Here's hoping for a smooth landing.

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Tao in Wudangshan

Our images of *tao* practitioners are usually those of Bruce Lee, Jackie Chan, and Jet Li flexing muscles and agility to *kung fu*, or, the ivory heads and mellow hearts of Big Sur's Esalen in appropriating the gifts of *qigong* and *t'ai chi ch'uan* in the '60s. For some '70s TV watchers, we recall David Carradine as the wily Taoist monk Kwai Chang Caine righting the world's wrong in the Wild, Wild West.

All that tradition comes into prominence as a discipline and art in the Wudang mountains astride Shiyan prefecture, flourished and intensified during the Ming Dynasty when China turned inward. The martial arts of *kung fu* and *wushu* are now popularly practiced as sport's competition even as the *Qigong* graces home parlors and the *Taijiquan* is performed en masse along Shanghai's Bund and Chicago's northshore.

Let us get metaphorical for a moment and take the code words YHWH from the Levant and the *tao* of Wudang, noting that what they mean, *The Way Life Is*, lets us realize what a human folly it is to wage war against one another over the variance of religious practices.

Let us do the YHWH code word first. The German translation made it into our familiar "Jehovah," which became personalized in the atomic science of Europe before the advent of quantum physics, thus a substantive person. Flung it back to the witness of the Greeks' "Iesu Kristo," and the iconic "Caesar" of the Romans, and one gets the makings of the Holy Roman Empire—Christo Rei, King and Pope, representing the transcendent will of the World Beyond.

The *Tao* means "way," "path," "route," before it is a doctrine or a principle. As a verb, it means, to "speak"—the truth, the real, and the authentic. It is not faith in the belief sense; rather it is focused on practice in effortless action, not the anxious moral virtue we find in the ethics of law and order, of what ought to be and should!

The social form of the YHWH tradition became "civilization," the empire and the maintenance of social order through individual integrity, at first, of the ruler, and now, the citizen; that of *tao* emerged as dynastic social practice of *mianzi* (face) and *guanxi* (connection), the assurance of social welfare, the empowerment of family existence, and the reality of social authenticity.

Historically, human right in the YHWH tradition devolved into individual duties and obligations. In the *Tao*, human right evolved into social stability and social responsibility. Neither tradition is exclusive of the other. The variance is on emphasis. One is promised a land of plenty elsewhere in time, from genesis to apocalypse, in Canaan or in Heaven; the other is the command not to do unto others what one would not want others done unto them, in space, organized, socially stratified, and circulated in the here-and-now.

In the scriptures of the Christian YHWH, the believer becomes a disciple of Jesus who self-confidently claims: "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father (read, YHWH) except through me," asking followers to do likewise. Believers become the

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

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revealers of truth, the vessels of the real, and the demonstration of what is authentic. The universal "the way life is" is the *logos* incarnate in every birth.

Nothing earthshaking here, except the grievous mistake of turning the *logos* into a book (*biblos* = books), or "doing likewise" into light-upon-the-hill exceptionalism and manifest destiny. The universal incarnate is everyone's prerogative. Even the Rotary Club's four-way test says as much, and they are definitely ahead of the Anglican Church in getting female leadership in their ranks.

The *tao* is profoundly seen in the symbol of the *taiji* and like the *logos* in the Johannine sense, it is very active. In fact, the *tao* that can be named is not the *tao*! Followers of *tao* focus on the action, the practice that is in tune with the way life is, which is always experienced as seeking the balance between humanity and nature. Maintaining unity and harmony in the midst of diversity is the swirl of the *yin-yang*; creating and innovating from the tranquil center is the art and discipline of the motion meditations of *kung fu* and *qigong*. Balancing the interior with the exterior, the individual and the social, is the *tao*, the way life is!

The *tao* leads to a life of virtue, the cultivation of the *qi*, the life force, consonant to the way life is. Nothing particularly novel here, save the calcification of ancient rites and rituals, and stratified society of ingrained patriarchy. The maintenance of social order and harmony is everyone's responsibility. Even members of China's Communist Party aspire to do so!

So, what has this got to do with the woods of Wudang, let alone, the seashells of Saipan?

It is the image of "the way life is" that comes careening at our face, from the Levant to the Wudang foothills of the Sword River. The religious traditions of both YHWH and *tao* have been shaped by the requirements of time and space. Today, we no longer seek the Will of God in time, or the Mandate of Heaven in space, to enlighten the choices we make of our lives. We have become secular, this worldly whether we say so or not, with only one question to ask, in Wudang or in Jerusalem: Is this the way life is?

Our answers are formulated through our lives. Funny that the *tao* in Wudangshan looks exactly like the YHWH of the Levant. Let us solemnly stand before The Way Life Is!

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Sakrifisiun Un’ Saina

Pot mas ke 20 años ayu na Palao’an Filipina de macho’chu’ guine. Hu atrebi kumonbetsiasune para bai’ lie’ haf’ na mampos ha mattitgue’ pot famaguofia.

Na’magof mahuñgog na todú i tres famaguon mana’ fonhayan estudiun niha. I asaguaña gaige ha’ esta pa’gu mananan-om fae’ (pugas) gi lugat niha. Ha bebende guatu gi un’ metkau ‘an ha kusecha tinanomña.

Hu faisén kau ti inaminasague’ kumu nana pot man-dañkulu famaguofia sin guiya. Lokue’, haf’ na klasen relasion guaha gi entalu’ niha. Hu lie’ na nina’ fontun ni kuestion sa’ haye na nana ti puminitiye famaguofia. Lau pot futtunan niha na ha mattigue’ todú desde 20 años malofan.

I masusede un’ silensiu na dinisplantan nesessidat familia. Makat para hita sa’ i kustumbre mampos tana’ tatkilu’ dinaña familia. Haf’ mohon ya parehu modun linala’ta yan mañeluta Filipinu ‘nai miyon gi entre siha man-machochochu’ hiyuñg tanu’ niha pot nesessidat familia?

Ha sañgan lokue’ i prohima na ayu mas i tiempon ha’anén gu-pot ‘nai mafattu didog mahalañña ni pidasosña. Makat na fina’pos lau un’ sakrifisiu ni mumirese dañkulu na premiu ginen hilu’. Ti hu komprende sa’ solu guiya i prohima mas tumuñgu i motibu na ha akseptá mumattitgue’ pot nesessidat famaguofia.

Ilegu na megai besis ni finatoigue ni mañge’ na chaleg famaguofia. Ayu mina’ kontentu na man-felis i famaguon gi edukasion niha. Tody man-magradua gi kolehu ya man-gai ofisiu mauleg pa’gu. Makat na sakrifisiu.

Rimulinon Man-ritirau

‘Nai ritirau-yu’ petmanente, maribaha todú nesessidathu diariu. Malimitte mantension-hu gi dididi’ na pagamienton ritirau ni chinatfinue’ ni otrú “dididi’” ginen i social security. Dispues de este, megaiña na hu choneg i atdau para u lachedeg machum gi sanlagu.

Gi mismu tiempu, magahet na todú nesessidatta mas menos ‘nai sige hit umamku’. Esta tat presisu na bai’ usa kotbatan Sears Roebuck. Diaru hu kachetyu’ franela yan kasunes kadada’. Dispues hu nañnga i depattamenton gera para u tutuhon man-aminasa.

Dispues de felisitation yan tinayuyot diariu hu tutuhon humusga asuntu siha ni para bai’ tuge’. Megai besis lokue’ ‘nai hu agañg i kiñaduhu as former Speaker Oscar C. Rasa pot konsuttasion asuntun linahyan. Hu sen agradece i tomtum yan sumen menhalom na akonsehu siha ginen guiya.

Hu areglan ñaihon galaidehu antes de bai’ pega layaghu gi komputa. Hu agradece i tiempu gi rinikonosen maseha haf’ na attikulu. Gumai kampuyu’ umanalisa yan muñgañgas haf’ gaige gi menahu. Agradesimientu lokue’ para i Saina pot esta pa’gu hasedeyu’ usun klaru na kabesa.

‘An esta ni mona ni tatte ya kulanyu’ fatigau, hu aligau i amiguu Magoo pot para bai’n chaleg. Guiya midisionhu gi haf’ sessu i man-otdinariu mapadedese. Hu agradece lokue’ i frañku na fino’ña siha gi maseha haf’ hu faisén.

Ti añgogkuyon na inañgogu

Maseha manu hu fatoiue oppan gi matan yan pachot tautau i maliñgon inañgogu ni ti añgogkuyon. Megai besis na hu sotta para umalagnos ginen pechun niha i miseraple na pinadesen niniha. Dididi’ atrasau i inasogne gi mediu karera papa’ gi sadog. Repara sa’ ayu na sentimentu lehitimu yan katgadu.

Gaige lamayot patte problema-ta gi mañan no siañkassu. Dimas de u prekura obligasion niha, man-mama’ taguan kadu mampos taduñg hinasson niniha.. Kau magahet na mampos makat i asuntun linahyan siha?

Ti mapot i asunto-ta siha ya man-satbayon kumu siña in’ akan-teha umatan manu ‘nai gaige sessu i hale’ destrosiu. Gigon un’ soda

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.

ennau, libianu un’ hasuye chuguiyon na satbasion. Kumeke ileghu na gaige ha’ i asuntu gi me’nan miyu. Dobla mañgas miyu ya in’ tutuhon ensegidas.

Mamaisén amiguu atuñgo’ña Guam para umana’ sahñgiye (reserve) sahyan para ‘an mattugue’. Ilegña na taya’ problema, “Pa’gu haf’ malago’mu pot lugat fanmaigu’an?” Para u sañgane mohon na u hulug un’ ramas troñku gi hiyuñg hotel ya u kahlañgue tulanoche. Dios tiampare kulan mohon kasiyas manog ‘nai para u deskansa. Estague’ probleman ti matuñgu liñguahen niha!

Ha faisenyu’ i amiguu Magoo haf’ bisnes-hu manaitai haf’ masusede gi ekonomian enteru elmundo. Hu espliká na ayu ha’ solu i mas man-atbansau na ekonomia hu pupulan. Maseha haye gi halom este na tropa ya basnag, libianu ha danche kinalamten-ta guine.

Pot ihemplo: Yangin u fatsu kinalamten Japon, South Korea yan China pues añgogku na megai gi tautau niha ti u fañgarera manbakasion pot chinatsagan i tanu’. Hita ha’ ni natibu man-bakasio-sion maseha hinigua’ (iran Yuus) iya Marianas.

Huna’ fanachu dispues pidasun hayu ya hu choneg ‘nai todú man-apalo’pu’. Ayu ‘nai konfotme na gai sustansia haf’ hu pupulan diariu.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Keeping our lousy reputation

There are few certainties in life, but one is that tourists who come here will be robbed. Not all, of course, but enough to maintain our lousy reputation.

The latest incident, with the Chinese tourist who went diving with Harry Blalock, is a prime example. Wing Beach is notorious for criminals. I have seen them myself and called Crime Stoppers. But nothing was ever done; the bad guys were probably connected. You know how that goes.

But it wasn’t just the tourist who lost his hotel key from Harry’s truck at the beach. Harry’s place was burglarized also, and then the Chinese guy’s hotel room at the Hafa Adai was also burglarized.

More feasibility BS and alternative to casinos

I know for a fact that many people actually believed the governor about ferries just because he is the governor. But I knew his feasibility study denial was just an excuse to kill the ferry service industry for casinos. But what got me was the governor had to know there hasn’t been a feasibility study done on his casino proposal! Apparently the governor doesn’t think we need a feasibility study of the social and economic impact of Saipan casinos, a study on the visitor market to determine if, who, and how many will patronize the casinos, a jobs study to determine the number of jobs, what kind of jobs, and who will fill these predominantly minimum wage jobs. But most importantly, there hasn’t been a cannibalization study to determine the adverse effects of Saipan casinos on businesses like the Dynasty, DFS, gift shops, tour activities, etc. These businesses will surely lose a lot of their revenues to Saipan casinos. Many of us would also like to know what the casino investors and the government will do to help and prevent local people from gambling addiction.

It was brought out in the Senate hearing on Tinian that the investors who want to build casinos on Saipan *do not care* about Tinian, Rota or the people of the CNMI; they are concerned *only* with making money. They don’t care *who* will suffer the consequences of casinos because we will be the ones who will pay the cost of casinos in the degradation of the CNMI’s social fabric—more crime, broken marriages, destroyed families, and the list goes on. As long as investors can make money they don’t care about the adverse side effects and whose money they take (locals or tourists). So if you think the poker machines are something, then imagine it being 100 times worse with casinos.

We have seen this before, and we remember the unfortunate Russian visitor who was assaulted, her rental car and possessions stolen, in broad daylight at Suicide Cliff. I am sure she won’t be back any time soon.

If there is a plus side to this, that there are often outpourings of sympathy, and (in the Russian woman’s case) a free rental car from Doug Brennan at Microl. I don’t know if the Chinese community has rallied to help the young man, but I hope they are doing so. The Chinese community is very strong and positive here.

In the meantime, the beaches remain open to tourists, and to the rats who would rob them.

The hotels—all of them—must post signs in each room, warning the tourists to leave their valuables locked in the room safe or at the hotel desk. This is an emergency and it’s grave. Flame Tree TV, especially its Channel 3 offering, needs to warn tourists, in Japanese, Chinese, Korean and Russian, and frequently. This is serious business.

As Harry Blalock said on the KSPN-2 news, our tourism is going to take a major hit once these stories begin to circulate in the social

As for alternatives to casinos, there are as many alternatives as there are tourist-related activities and that’s a lot. But our foundation is the ocean, which is our only highway to connect all the islands and a ferry service is the next best thing to having paved highways. We have overlooked this very basic component of our infrastructure that is critical to the growth and expansion of commerce and our economic foundation.

The are many ways to fix our economy and, believe it or not, a congressman spent over \$100,000 of the people’s money getting an architect to do the plans for a convention center because a site had finally been identified. Yes, we the people paid for the convention center plans but it was killed to make sure we got casinos. Wake up people! A convention center would give the CNMI many more family, sports, entertainment and business-oriented options, including conventions to attract visitors.

We have elected over 50 different people since this casino issue evolved and what really gets me upset and disappointed is out of all these people they could only come up one option—casinos! This is the reality of the powerful politics that is pushing this casino issue; it is so strong and powerful it appears other leaders don’t even want to offer an option, can’t offer an option or are just afraid to offer any alternatives. We need leaders who respect the “no” decision of the people and will work *for* the people, not politicians playing safe politics.

Ambrose M Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

media such as Facebook, Twitter, QQ, and other sites foreigners use. That is why the hotels and the local TV and radio stations ought to be broadcasting warnings every day and several times a day.

We could also use some good signs at the airport—to warn tourists about what might happen here. The MVA needs to ramp up its educational efforts also, and create brochures that are in every hotel room and in the waiting areas.

Obviously, the police can’t be everywhere, but the more popular beaches need either a security guard, or a life guard, or someone to keep an eye on things.

This problem won’t be solved until there is a commitment by the hotels, the media, the MVA, and the DPS to tackle this problem head on, with strong words of warning to our visitors, and the patrol of the beaches and other tourist spots. Without these initiatives, visitors will continue to be robbed and the reputation of the CNMI will further deteriorate.

Russ Mason
Akgak, Saipan

Abramoff’s islands

An interesting security question for the 21st century is “Can the U.S. Congress be bought?” We know it has happened recently, but can foreign interests still pay lobbyists to execute a similar conspiracy harmful to citizens?

While Americans debate immigration reform, S. 1237 is an immigration bill supported by foreign big business in the far off Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, slipped quietly into the Territorial Omnibus Act of 2013 without publicity or comment period, and it would continue the two-tiered system of servitude that Jack Abramoff’s multi-million dollar lobby in the U.S. House of Representatives so effectively advanced.

Citizens strongly oppose delaying minimum wage increases, extending the transition period, and especially allowing non-visa holding foreign operators to continue the human rights violations, labor abuse, and other crimes in the CNMI indefinitely.

Non-U.S. visa businesses operating in our Commonwealth are problematic. After years of debate and multiple comment periods, brilliantly crafted regulations in the CNRA addressed these issues in the best interests of local citizens by requiring U.S. visas by 2014 with no possible extensions.






Adhering to U.S. visa laws will improve our Commonwealth and ensure economic opportunity for local citizens. Americas here cordially welcome legal investors from many nations with open arms, but CNMI citizens also deserve the same protections as the US mainland.

Ron Hodges
Puerto Rico, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY |
|---|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲88° ▼77° | ▲88° ▼77° | ▲88° ▼77° | ▲88° ▼77° | ▲88° ▼77° |

Micronesia

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------|
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorms | ▲89 ▼81 |
| Palau | Showers | ▲87 ▼75 |
| Yap | Showers | ▲91 ▼77 |
| Chuuk | Showers | ▲87 ▼79 |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorms | ▲87 ▼75 |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorms | ▲87 ▼75 |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | ▲85 ▼80 |

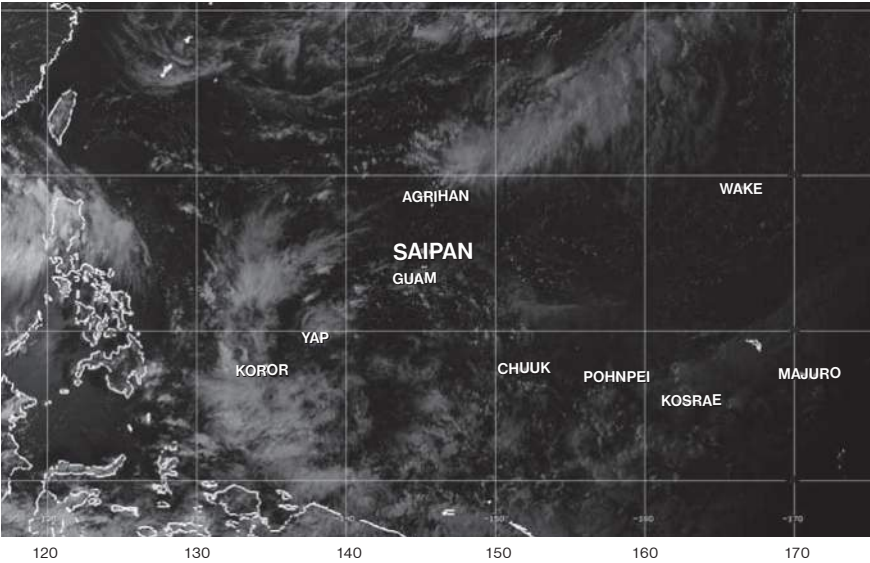
Around The Globe

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|---------|
| Auckland | Partly Cloudy | ▲59 ▼49 |
| Beijing | Mostly Cloudy | ▲82 ▼72 |
| Hong Kong | Thundershowers | ▲87 ▼81 |
| Honolulu | Partly Cloudy | ▲85 ▼74 |
| London | Partly Cloudy | ▲79 ▼59 |
| Los Angeles | Partly Cloudy | ▲79 ▼64 |
| Manila | Thundershowers | ▲88 ▼79 |
| Melbourne | Mostly Cloudy | ▲62 ▼42 |
| Miami | Mostly Sunny | ▲93 ▼75 |
| New York | Mostly Cloudy | ▲78 ▼67 |
| Osaka | Thundershowers | ▲90 ▼78 |
| Paris | Mostly Sunny | ▲88 ▼67 |
| Pusan | Windy | ▲89 ▼78 |
| Rome | Sunny | ▲89 ▼72 |
| Salem | Sunny | ▲90 ▼55 |
| San Francisco | Partly Cloudy | ▲66 ▼55 |
| Seoul | Mostly Sunny | ▲85 ▼73 |
| Tokyo | Thunderstorms | ▲86 ▼75 |
| Washington, DC | Partly Cloudy | ▲83 ▼67 |

Tides

| Saipan Harbor | | | |
|---------------|-------|------------|----------|
| 4:32 AM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.8 Feet |
| 9:45 AM | Today | High Tide: | 2.0 Feet |
| 4:45 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.3 Feet |
| 11:17 PM | Today | High Tide: | 2.1 Feet |

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level trough extends northeastward from a low centered near 16N131E to beyond 25N at 145E. Low-level convergence combined with the upper-level trough is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms well west of Guam between 10N and 17N from 132E to 138E and near Minami Tori Shima north of a line from 20N147E to 22N157E. A surface trough extends southeastward from 11N130E to 5N142E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen near Yap and Koror between the equator and 10N from 132E to 142E. Another surface trough curves southeastward from 7N146E to 1N167E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen from south of Chuuk and Pohnpei to Kosrae between the equator and 6N from 145E to 168E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered and a few thunderstorms across the Marshall Islands east of a line from 6N160E to 11N167E. Similar weather is seen southeast of Majuro east of a line from 2N177E to 5N177E.

Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|----------|---------|---------|
| Today | 5:58 AM | 6:49 PM |
| Friday | 5:58 AM | 6:49 PM |
| Saturday | 5:58 AM | 6:49 PM |
| Sunday | 5:58 AM | 6:49 PM |
| Monday | 5:59 AM | 6:48 PM |

Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| Today | 8:47 PM | 8:09 AM |
| Friday | 9:32 PM | 9:06 AM |
| Saturday | 10:15 PM | 10:01 AM |
| Sunday | 10:58 PM | 10:54 AM |
| Monday | 11:41 PM | 11:46 AM |

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
 - Fax: (670) 235-3740
 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 23, 2013

| DEPARTURES | | | | ARRIVALS | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|----------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) | | | | GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN | | | |
| UA5070 | 4:35am | 5:25am | 2, 4, 6, 7 | UA 5069 | 2:45am | 3:35am | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| UA5062 | 4:50am | 5:40am | 1, 3, 5 | UA5071 | 7:15am | 8:05am | Daily |
| UA5068 | 8:35am | 9:25am | Daily | UA5073 | 10:00am | 10:50am | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA5074 | 11:20am | 12:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 | UA5075 | 1:45pm | 2:35pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA5076 | 3:10pm | 4:00pm | Daily | UA5077 | 5:35pm | 6:25pm | Daily |
| UA5078 | 6:55pm | 7:45pm | Daily | UA5079 | 8:20pm | 9:10pm | Daily |
| UA5072 | 9:45pm | 10:35pm | Daily | | | | |
| SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) | | | | NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN | | | |
| DL287 | 6:05am | 8:45am | Daily | DL298 | 10:25am | 3:05pm | Daily |
| DL297 | 4:35pm | 7:25pm | Daily | DL288 | 8:15pm | 12:50am+1 | Daily |
| SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) | | | | BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ608 | 3:10am | 6:20am | 1, 4, 5, 7 | OZ607 | 9:05pm | 1:55am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) | | | | SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ606 | 2:20am | 6:00am | 1 | OZ603 | 8:50am | 2:20pm | Daily |
| OZ606 | 2:50am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | OZ605 | 7:40pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| OZ604 | 3:30pm | 6:55pm | Daily | OZ605 | 8:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) | | | | SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN | | | |
| 3U8648 | 6:10am | 8:40am | 1, 4, 5, 7 | 3U8647 | 10:40pm | 5:00am+1 | 1, 4, 6, 7 |
| SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) | | | | BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN | | | |
| MU764 | 4:10am | 8:00am | 1, 5 | MU763 | 7:55pm | 3:10am+1 | 4, 7 |
| SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) | | | | GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN | | | |
| 3U8646 | 4:20am | 7:30am | 2, 6 | 3U8645 | 7:40pm | 3:00am+1 | 1, 5 |
| SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV) | | | | KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN | | | |
| SYL9950 | 6:40pm | 1:30am+1 | 7 | SYL9949 | 12:45pm | 5:20pm | 7 |
| SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO) | | | | VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN | | | |
| XF1734 | 4:15pm | 10:30pm | 4 Every other week eff May 16 | XF1733 | 11:20am | 3:25pm | 4 Every other week eff May 16 |
| SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) | | | | MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ606/701 | 2:20am | 11:05am | 1 via ICN | PR110/UA5072 | 7:55am | 6:25pm | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |
| OZ606/701 | 2:50am | 11:05am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | DL172/288 | 8:00am | 12:50am+1 | Daily via NRT |
| UA5070/191 | 4:35am | 9:55am | 6 via GUM | UA190/5077 | 10:55am | 6:25pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| UA5062/191 | 4:50am | 9:55am | 3 via GUM | UA190/5079 | 10:55am | 9:10pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| DL287/173 | 6:05am | 10:05pm | Daily via NRT | OZ702/605 | 12:15pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| UA5068/PR111 | 8:35am | 4:35pm | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM | OZ702/605 | 12:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| US5074/PR111 | 11:20am | 4:35pm | 1, 5, 7 via GUM | UA184/5071 | 10:55pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA5076/183 | 3:10pm | 8:45pm | 2, 5 via GUM | OZ704/603 | 11:45pm | 2:20pm | Daily via ICN |
| UA5076/183 | 3:10pm | 8:50pm | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM | UA184/5071 | 11:35pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |
| OZ604/703 | 3:30pm | 10:45pm | Daily via ICN | | | | |
| SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) | | | | HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ606/721 | 2:20am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN | OZ746/603 | 12:30am | 2:20pm | Daily via ICN |
| OZ606/721 | 2:50am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | OZ722/605 | 1:10pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| UA5076/147 | 3:10pm | 9:50pm | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM | OZ722/605 | 1:10pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| OZ604/745 | 3:30pm | 10:40pm | Daily via ICN | UA180/5071 | 10:45pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 5 via GUM |
| | | | | UA180/5071 | 10:50pm | 8:05am+1 | 3, 6 GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency | Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-----------|----------------------|-------|-------|-----------|
| Guam-Rota | | | | FRE 115 | 13:00 | 13:10 | Daily |
| FRE 100 | 7:30 | 8:00 | Daily | FRE 117 | 14:30 | 14:40 | Daily |
| Rota-Saipan | | | | FRE 119 | 16:00 | 16:10 | Daily |
| FRE 100 | 8:20 | 8:50 | Daily | FRE 121 | 16:40 | 16:50 | Daily |
| Guam-Rota | | | | FRE 123 | 17:40 | 17:50 | Daily |
| FRE 300 | 17:00 | 17:30 | Daily | FRE 125 | 18:30 | 18:40 | Daily |
| Rota-Saipan | | | | | | | |
| FRE 1750 | 17:50 | 18:20 | Daily | Tinian-Saipan | | | |
| Saipan-Rota | | | | FRE 102 | 7:05 | 7:15 | Daily |
| FRE 200 | 9:30 | 10:00 | Daily | FRE 104 | 7:50 | 8:00 | Daily |
| Rota-Guam | | | | FRE 106 | 8:20 | 8:30 | Daily |
| FRE 400 | 18:55 | 19:25 | Daily | FRE 108 | 9:00 | 9:10 | Daily |
| Saipan-Rota | | | | FRE 110 | 10:00 | 10:10 | Daily |
| FRE 400 | 19:40 | 20:10 | Daily | FRE 112 | 11:05 | 11:15 | Daily |
| Rota-Guam | | | | FRE 114 | 12:00 | 12:10 | Daily |
| FRE 400 | | | | FRE 116 | 13:30 | 13:40 | Daily |
| Saipan-Tinian | | | | FRE 118 | 14:50 | 15:00 | Daily |
| FRE 101 | 6:45 | 6:55 | Daily | FRE 120 | 16:20 | 16:30 | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30 | 7:40 | Daily | FRE 122 | 17:00 | 17:10 | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00 | 8:10 | Daily | FRE 124 | 18:05 | 18:15 | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40 | 8:50 | Daily | FRE 126 | 18:50 | 19:00 | Daily |
| FRE 109 | 9:10 | 9:20 | Daily | | | | |
| FRE 111 | 10:45 | 10:55 | Daily | | | | |



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Pacific territories' priorities in CAPAC meeting with Obama

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) joined members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus yesterday in a meeting with President Barack Obama at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building to discuss concerns and legislative priorities.

Bordallo, who serves as vice chair of the caucus, raised the importance of S. 1237, the Omnibus Territories Act of 2013, and asked for the Obama administration's support of the bill as it moves through the legislative process. The bill contains many provisions important to Guam, including the text of the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act, and she thanked the President for his support for this provision to finally resolve war claims for the people of Guam.

Bordallo also encouraged the President to urge the Department of Homeland Security to come to a favorable decision on a China visa waiver for Guam. She stressed its importance to Guam's tourism industry and the need for DHS to come to a decision before a leadership transition at DHS.

CAPAC chair Judy Chu and other members raised their concerns over the lack of presidential appointments for Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders and discussed immigration, language access in the Affordable Care Act and Native Hawaiian recognition.

"I appreciated the opportunity to meet with President Obama to per-



The leadership of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus raise several issues affecting the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community, including presidential appointments, immigration, the Affordable Care Act and the Omnibus Territories Act. From left, Rep. Mike Honda, chair emeritus; Rep. Judy Chu, caucus chair; President Obama; Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo, caucus vice chair; Rep. Mark Takano, Whip; and Rep. Tammy Duckworth.

PETE SOUZA

sonally address the importance of the Omnibus Territories Act," said Bordallo. "I thanked the President for his leadership on issues important to our Asian-American and Pacific Islander communities, and I requested the administration's support for this important bill. Among its many provisions, the bill will finally resolve war

claims for our island's *man'amko* by incorporating the full text of H.R. 44 into section 12. It will also help to strengthen our economies and ensure energy efficiency by requiring a team of experts to address the energy needs of the territories and requiring the GAO to report forecast revenues and expenditures in order to improve

these forecasts. The Omnibus Territories Act is an important step forward in addressing the unique challenges facing the Pacific Island territories and the Freely Associated States, and I will work with my colleagues and the administration to answer any questions regarding this bill and respond to concerns that may arise. I

also appreciate the administration's continued focus on expanding Guam and CNMI's tourism markets. President Obama announced the expansion of parole authority for Russian visitors to Guam and I hope his continued focus on this issue will enable expansion to the Chinese market." *(Office of the Guam Delegate)*

CRIME OF THE WEEK

Burglary at Wing Beach

Crime Stoppers is seeking the public's help for information on a burglary and theft incident that occurred at Wing Beach.

On Monday, July 22, 2013, at about 2pm, the victims, a 52-year-old local male and his 19-year-old Chinese male dive student, went diving at Wing Beach. They parked the dive company's car (a blue 1999 Ford F150 pickup) at the parking area and returned to the pickup truck after their first dive at about 3:30pm. There was no damage to the car at that time. The men conducted a second dive and returned to the parked pickup truck at about 4:30pm to discover the rear passenger window smashed and the 19-year-old male's personal items stolen. The items stolen include a phone charger and a Hafa

Adai Hotel room key.

Later, the victim returned to his hotel in Garapan and discovered that personal items had been stolen from his room. The stolen items include a black leather Prada bag containing a 10-inch Samsung tablet and a black wallet containing a Chinese passport. It is possible that the suspect(s) used the stolen key taken from the crime scene at Wing Beach to gain access to the victim's hotel room. There were no signs of forced entry.

DPS and Crime Stoppers need your help. Contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use our website at www.nmicrimestoppers.net Crime Stoppers pays up to \$1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. *(NMI Crime Stoppers)*

New system provides wave forecasts in the Marianas

Mariners and ocean recreationalists in Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands now benefit from new high-resolution 7.5-day wave forecasts operated by the Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System, or PacIOOS.

Ocean waves are forecast twice daily for this region using WaveWatch 3 and Simulating Waves Nearshore, or SWAN, models by Kwok Fai Cheung, professor of Ocean and Resources Engineering, and Ning Li, post-doctoral research fellow, within the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

The regional WaveWatch 3 model covers the Mariana Islands from Saipan to Guam at 3 arcminute resolution (approximately 5km) with nested SWAN models for Guam and Apra Harbor at 0.3 and 0.03 arcminute resolution (approximately 500 meters and 50 meters). The model system provides 7.5 days of forecast wave height, period, and direction twice a day and includes real-time validation at the two PacIOOS wave buoys off Guam: Ipan (#52200) and Rititidian Point (#52202).

PacIOOS director Heather Kerkerling is excited about the potential for these forecasts to improve operations for harbors and ensure the safety of the public. "Mariners, harbor masters, ocean safety officers, swimmers, and surfers in the Mariana Islands now have access to high-resolution forecasts to help plan their ocean excursions. Improved efficiency of operations can save time and money, but more importantly, it can save lives," explained Kerkerling.

The best way to access the wave forecasts is under "surf forecasts" in the PacIOOS Voyager, a free online mapping platform (<http://pacioos.org/voyager>).

PacIOOS/SOEST researcher Yi-Leng Chen, professor of Meteorology, is also instrumental in the operations

of the new wave forecasts. Dr. Cheung and Dr. Li perform their model runs with global as well as local wind forcing that Dr. Chen provides with his

daily regional Weather Research and Forecasting model, also available on the PacIOOS Voyager (under "weather forecast"). *(PR)*

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Wishing a double happy birthday to both Ann Margaret Manglona and Kyrie Anne Cepeda! May you both enjoy your special day and be blessed with many, many more years to come. Loving you both not only today, but everyday! Greetings come from your family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Belated birthday greetings to JM Monserrat, who celebrated his 4th birthday yesterday, July 24, 2013. We're all so proud of you!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy 40th birthday to John Joseph "JJ" V. Salas! Thank you for all you do for us! We love you! Greetings come from Sam, Julia, Janece, and John.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



PACIFICA INSURANCE

LOYALTY PROGRAM

Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. staffer Keomi Palacios presents a certificate of partnership to Konbetsa Kafe owner Glenna Palacios-Reyes for their recent participation in the Pacifica Loyalty discount program. Konbetsa will be extending 10-percent off food and beverage to Pacifica Loyalty cardholders. Pacifica Loyalty is only offered to individuals and businesses who hold an insurance policy through Pacifica. For details on the loyalty program visit www.pacificains.com/pacificaloyalty.

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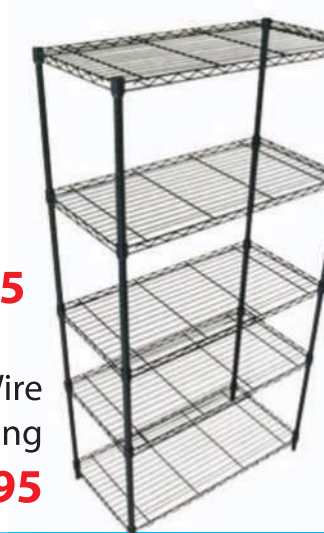
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Business

FDA cracks down on illegal diabetes remedies

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Food and Drug Administration is cracking down on more than a dozen companies that market illegal treatments for diabetes, ranging from bogus dietary supplements to prescription drugs sold online without a prescription.

All of the products aim to cash in on the country's diabetes epidemic, which affects nearly 26 million Americans. Regulators worry that consumers who buy such unapproved products could put off getting legitimate medical care, which could exacerbate heart disease, kidney failure and other deadly complications.

The FDA sent warning letters to 15 companies, both in the U.S. and abroad, ordering them to stop selling diabetes treatments which violate U.S. drug laws.

Three of the products targeted are marketed as "natural" supplements, but actually contain unlisted pharmaceutical ingredients. For example, Diexi, which is sold as a traditional Indian "herbal formula," actually contains metformin, the most common prescription drug used to treat diabetes. The product is sold by Amrutam Life Care, of Surat, India.

"Consumers should exercise caution before using products claiming to be herbal or all-

natural alternatives to FDA-approved prescription drugs," the agency said in a statement Tuesday. "These products should be considered unsafe and should not be used."

Other products include genuine dietary supplements that make unproven claims to treat or prevent diabetes. For example, Diabetes Daily Care is a capsule-based supplement containing cinnamon extract and other herbs. Its manufacturer, Nature's Health Supply Inc., claims it "safely and effectively improves sugar metabolism."

Under U.S. law, only FDA-approved medicines are permitted to make claims for treating or preventing disease.

Other companies targeted by the FDA run online pharmacies that sell prescription drugs for diabetes without a prescription. The FDA issued a warning letter to <http://www.bestcheapmedsonline.com> for marketing unapproved versions of diabetes drugs like Januvia, from Merck & Co. Inc.

The FDA warns patients against buying prescription medications on the Internet. Only 3

percent of online pharmacies actually comply with all U.S. pharmacy laws, according to a review by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy.

People with diabetes are unable to properly break down carbohydrates, either because their bodies do not produce enough insulin or because they've become resistant to the hormone, which controls blood sugar levels. These patients face higher risks of heart attacks, kidney problems, blindness and other serious complications.

Many diabetics require mul-

ti-ple drugs to control their blood sugar levels.

The U.S. market for prescription diabetes drugs is the largest in the world, with sales of \$22 billion last year. Sales have ballooned more than 60 percent in the last four years from \$13.6 billion in 2008, according to health data firm, IMS Health.

The FDA said it has not received any reports of injury or illness connected with the products, but is taking action as a precautionary measure.

The FDA sent the warning letters to the companies last week,

but posted them online Tuesday morning. The letters gives each company 15 business days to reply and explain how they will come into compliance with U.S. law. FDA warning letters are not legally binding, but the agency can take companies to court if they are ignored.

Survey shows China manufacturing to 11-month low

BEIJING (AP)—China's manufacturing activity has fallen to an 11-month low as an economic slowdown deepens, a survey showed Wednesday.

HSBC Corp. said the preliminary version of its monthly purchasing managers index declined to 47.7 this month from June's 48.2 on a 100-point scale on which numbers below 50 show a contraction in activity.

China's economic growth fell to a two-decade low of 7.5 percent in the latest quarter, prompting suggestions Beijing might need to launch a new stimulus to avert politically dangerous job losses.

The manufacturing decline adds to pressure on the labor market and indicates Beijing will need to "introduce additional fine-tuning measures to stabilize growth," said HSBC economist Hongbin Qu in a statement.

The figures appeared to confirm analysts' warnings that China's growth could decline further, adding to pressure on communist leaders who took power last year. They are trying to shift China from reliance on exports and investment to slower, more sustainable growth based on domestic consumption.

The country's top economic official, Premier Li Keqiang, was quoted by Chinese newspapers Tuesday as saying the bottom line for growth was 7 percent. Financial markets rose on expectations that meant Beijing might take steps to reverse two straight quarters of declining growth.

Companies reported output and orders declined at a faster rate this month, according to HSBC. The preliminary report is based on 85 to 90 percent of responses from the 420 manufacturing companies surveyed each month.



This undated photo provided by The Food and Drug Administration shows four of the more than a dozen U.S. and foreign companies that market illegal treatments for diabetes, ranging from bogus dietary supplements to prescription drugs sold online without a prescription.

FDA: Menthol cigarettes likely pose health risk

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—A Food and Drug Administration review concludes that menthol cigarettes likely pose a greater public health risk than regular cigarettes but does not make a recommendation on whether to limit or ban the minty smokes—one of the few growth sectors of the shrinking cigarette business.

The federal agency released the independent review on Tuesday and is seeking input from the health community, the tobacco industry and others on possible restrictions on the mint-flavored cigarettes.

The FDA evaluation concluded that there is little evidence to suggest that menthol cigarettes are more or less toxic or contribute to more disease risk to smokers than regular cigarettes. However, there is adequate data to suggest that menthol use is likely associated with increased smoking initiation by younger people and that menthol smokers

have a harder time quitting, the review said.

There's also evidence indicating that menthol's cooling properties can reduce the harshness of cigarette smoke and that menthol cigarettes are marketed as a smoother alternative, the review said.

"Menthol cigarettes raise critical public health questions," Mitch Zeller, director of the Center for Tobacco Products, said in a conference call with reporters.

Zeller said there's "no hold-up" on the FDA proposing restrictions on menthol but that there are still "some important questions" that need to be answered. The agency is commissioning further research.

A 2011 FDA advisory panel report, which was mandated under the 2009 law giving the agency the authority to regulate tobacco, made many of the same findings, and said that re-

moving menthol cigarettes from the market would benefit public health and highlighted greater use among minorities, teenagers and low-income people. Panels like the tobacco committee advise the FDA on scientific issues. The agency doesn't have to follow its recommendations, but often does.

Meanwhile, a tobacco industry report to the FDA acknowledged that all cigarettes are hazardous but said there's no scientific basis for regulating menthols differently. The industry also has raised concerns that restrictions on menthol would lead to a black market for the cigarettes.

Menthol cigarettes are one of the few growth areas in a shrinking cigarette market. The percentage of U.S. cigarette smokers using menthol brands grew from 33.9 percent in 2008 to 37.5 percent in 2011, according to a study by the federal

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, with more significant growth among younger smokers.

The FDA is "simply kicking the can down the road," Joseph Califano Jr., former U.S. Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare under President Jimmy Carter, and Louis Sullivan, former Health and Human Services Secretary for President George H.W. Bush, said in a joint statement. Along with other public health advocates Tuesday, they urged the agency to ban menthol cigarettes. "The failure of this administration to act undermines the public health and is particularly harmful to vulnerable young Americans and African-Americans," they said.

A menthol ban or other restriction on the flavored cigarettes would fall heavily on Lorillard Inc., whose Newport brand is the top-selling menthol

cigarette in the U.S., with nearly 38 percent of the market. Lorillard, based in Greensboro, N.C., is the country's third-largest tobacco company.

CEO Murray Kessler said in a statement that Lorillard looks forward to participating in the regulatory process and reiterated its long-held belief that menthol cigarettes shouldn't be treated differently.

The move comes ahead of a Wednesday deadline for the U.S. to respond to the World Trade Organization's findings last year that the FDA's ban on manufacturing, importing, marketing and distributing candy-, fruit- and clove-flavored tobacco breaks trade rules because it exempts menthol cigarettes, most of which are made in the U.S.. The investigation was launched following a request from Indonesia, which claims more than 6 million of its people depend on the production of clove cigarettes—a staple of the country's smoking culture.

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EXCHANGE RATES

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------|--------------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| Australian Dollar | 1.0797 | Hong Kong Dollar | 7.7577 | Philippine Peso | 43.16 |
| British Pound | 0.651 | Indian Rupee | 59.4255 | Singapore Dollar | 1.265 |
| Canadian Dollar | 1.0303 | Indonesian Rupiah | 10185 | South Korean Won | 1114.35 |
| Chinese Yuan | 6.1417 | Japanese Yen | 99.73 | Swiss Franc | 0.9359 |
| Euro | 0.7571 | Malaysian Ringgit | 3.178 | Taiwan Dollar | 29.931 |
| | | New Zealand Dollar | 1.255 | Thailand Baht | 30.94 |

Nation

Poll: Clinton is top 2016 Democratic bet; GOP field open

By DAVID LIGHTMAN
McCLATCHY WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON—The latest McClatchy-Marist poll is a tale of two very different political parties: Hillary Clinton has a huge lead among Democrats for the party's 2016 presidential nomination, while the Republicans face a melee with no clear front-runner.

One measure of Clinton's strength: Not only do 63 percent of Democrats and Democratic-leaning independent voters in the July 15-18 poll support the former secretary of state, U.S. senator and first lady, but finishing second is "unsure" at 18 percent. Vice President Joe Biden trails at 13 percent.

As for the Republicans, here's a barometer of the fracas looming for them: "Unsure" tops the field as the choice of one-fourth of Republicans and GOP-leaning independents. Among actual potential candidates, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie leads with 15 percent, followed closely by the party's 2012 vice presidential nominee Rep. Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz.

In other words, while it's early, there's no true leader of this pack.

"Numerically, Christie is in front," said Lee Miringoff, director of the Marist Institute for Public Opinion at Marist College in New York, which con-

An early look at the 2016 race

Hillary Clinton is the favorite so far among the field of Democratic presidential candidates, and she beats all the Republican prospects according to a new McClatchy-Marist

• If the 2016 election were held today, whom would you support?

Among Democrats

Hillary Clinton 63%

Joe Biden 13

Andrew Cuomo 6

Martin O'Malley 1

Unsure: 18%

• It is more important to have a Democratic nominee who will

Continue Obama's policies 46

Move in different direction 44

Among Republicans

Chris Christie 15

Paul Ryan 13

Marco Rubio 12

Jeb Bush 10

Unsure: 25%

• It is more important to have a Republican nominee who will

Stand on conservative 64

Win 31

Possible matchups • Registered voters, if the 2016 election were held today, whom would you vote for if the candidates were:

Hillary Clinton 47

Chris Christie 41

Hillary Clinton 48

Jeb Bush 40

Hillary Clinton 50

Marco Rubio 38

Hillary Clinton 50

Rand Paul 38

Hillary Clinton 53

Paul Ryan 37

Hillary Clinton 52

Rick Perry 30

Source: McClatchy-Marist poll of 1,204 adults, July 15-18, 2013; margin of error: +/- 2.8 percentage points; 980 registered voters, MOE +/-3.1; 426 Democrats/leaners, MOE +/-4.7; 426 Republicans/leaners, MOE +/-5.2
Graphic: Judy Treible

© 2013 MCT

ducted the poll.

But look closely at that roster of candidates, he said: Christie is the most prominent moderate. He benefits from a field stacked with conservatives who divide that big Republican constituency.

"Christie does much better if there's a huge crowd," Miringoff said.

In Iowa, traditionally the site of the nation's first presidential caucuses, Republicans add another reason for his stature.

"He's the most known at this point," said Craig Robinson, editor-in-chief of the Iowa Republican, which follows state politics.

Paul is the son of former Texas Rep. Ron Paul, who also ran for president and had a sizable following for his libertarian views. But voters are still looking the younger Paul over. As for Rubio, many conservatives remain uneasy, citing his alliance with Senate Democrats last month to write legislation that would provide a 13-year path to citizenship for most undocumented immigrants.

The Republican who's stirred some buzz so far is Cruz, Robinson said. The freshman senator's blunt conservatism, as well as his eagerness to engage voters, has proven popular.

"He tells it like it is," Robinson said.

Few are ruling out Christie. He is regarded as able to tap an Iowa donor base and has become familiar in party circles.

Christie, though, is no favorite of many conservatives. He angered them just before last year's election when he appeared with President Barack Obama, praising the federal response to Superstorm Sandy. In May, the two appeared together again in New Jersey, as Christie renewed his praise and tossed footballs with the president.

While those appearances might help him win re-election in November, they could prove useful fodder for conservative rivals in 2016. Nearly two-thirds of Republicans said in the McClatchy-Marist poll that it was more important to have a party nominee for president who would stand up for conservative principles. About one-third said it was important to have a candidate who could win.

Christie, the poll suggests, is the candidate with the best chance of beating Clinton—he trails her 47 percent to 41 percent. Clinton tops Bush 48 percent to 40 percent and has double-digit leads over Rubio, Paul, Ryan and Texas Gov. Rick Perry.

Although Clinton has neither ruled in nor out a second White House quest, she would appear to have a smooth path to the nomination. She has strong majority support from every Democratic subgroup—white, nonwhite, under 45, over 45, men, women, higher-income people, lower-income people and so on.

House GOP, Democrats clash over immigration

WASHINGTON (AP)—House Republicans took a tentative step toward offering citizenship to some unauthorized immigrants Tuesday, but hit an immediate wall of resistance from the White House on down as Democrats said it wasn't enough.

The dismissive reaction to the GOP proposal to offer eventual citizenship to some immigrants brought illegally to the U.S. as children underscored the difficulties of finding any compromise in the Republican-led House on the politically explosive issue of immigration.

That left prospects cloudy for one of President Barack Obama's top second-term priorities. Congress is preparing to break for a monthlong summer recess at the end of next week without action in the full House on any immigration legislation, even after the Senate passed a sweeping bipartisan bill last month to secure the borders and create a path to citizenship for the 11 million immigrants already in the country illegally.

At a hearing of the House Judiciary immigration subcommittee Tuesday on how to deal with immigrants brought

here illegally as children, Judiciary Chairman Bob Goodlatte, R-Va., suggested that "we as a nation should allow this group of young people to stay in the U.S. legally." House Republican leaders have embraced offering citizenship to such immigrants, and Goodlatte is working on a bill with Majority Leader Eric Cantor toward the goal.

It is something of a turnaround for Republicans, many of whom in the past have opposed legalizing immigrants brought here as kids. And some Democrats and immigration advocates said it was a welcome development showing the GOP has moved forward since nominating a presidential candidate last year, Mitt Romney, who suggested that people here illegally should "self-deport."

Yet even before the hearing began Democrats dismissed Goodlatte and Cantor's not-yet-released legislation, saying that any solution that doesn't offer citizenship to all 11 million immigrants here illegally falls short.

Over Twitter, White House senior adviser Dan Pfeiffer slammed "the cruel hypocrisy

of the GOP immigration plan: allow some kids to stay but deport their parents."

That drew an angry response from Rep. Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., who chairs the immigration subcommittee. After reading Pfeiffer's tweet aloud at the hearing, Gowdy labeled Pfeiffer "a demagogic, self-serving, political hack."

Cantor spokesman Rory Cooper also responded to Pfeiffer, asking over Twitter: "If White House opposes effort to give children path to staying in only country they know, how serious are they about immigration reform?"

In fact, Democrats and immigration advocates pushed hard in past years for legislation offering citizenship to immigrants brought as youths. The so-called DREAM Act passed the House in 2010 when it was controlled by Democrats, but was blocked by Senate Republicans.

But now, with a comprehensive solution like the one passed by the Senate in sight, Democrats and outside activists say they won't settle for anything less.

"Legalizing only the

DREAMers is not enough," said Rep. Luis Guterrez, D-Ill. "I cannot imagine for one minute that Republicans, who also honor the sanctity of families, want to legalize the children, but leave the rest of the family vulnerable."

Some Democrats and outside advocates also contended that Republicans were advancing a politically attractive measure just to give themselves cover to avoid dealing with all the immigrants here illegally. They noted that as recently as June the House's GOP majority voted to overturn an Obama administration policy halting deportations of some immigrants brought to the U.S. as youths—a policy put in place after Congress failed to pass the DREAM Act.

"Don't be fooled. This is not about the DREAM Act. It's about politics and the Republicans' attempt to make it look like they are taking immigration reform seriously," said a statement from the Fair Immigration Reform Movement.

Republicans warned that such opposition could backfire.

"Attempts to group the entire 11 million into one homogenous

group in an effort to secure a political remedy will only wind up hurting the most vulnerable," said Gowdy.

Cantor and Goodlatte have not released details of their legislation, but it is likely to be narrower in scope than the DREAM Act, which would have offered legal status to people under age 35 who arrived in the U.S. before age 16 and had lived here for five years and obtained a high school diploma. Slightly more than 2.1 million immigrants could have qualified, according to an analysis by the Migration Policy Institute.

A series of GOP lawmakers voiced support at Tuesday's hearing for some solution for immigrants brought illegally as kids. But the sentiment was not universal.

Rep. Steve King, R-Iowa, a leading immigration hardliner, said such an approach would amount to a "backdoor amnesty" that would "sacrifice the rule of law on the altar of political expediency."

King also came under attack for comments he made to the conservative news website Newsmax last week, where he downplayed the idea that many unauthorized immigrant youth are high-achieving.

ACROSS THE NATION

CDC: 250 in 6 states have unidentified stomach bug

WASHINGTON (AP)—More than 250 people in at least six states have come down with a stomach bug that could be linked to foodborne illness. The Centers for Disease Control says the cyclospora infection causing diarrhea and other flu-like symptoms has been reported in Iowa, Nebraska, Texas, Wisconsin, Georgia and Connecticut. The CDC said 10 people have been hospitalized and most of the reported illnesses occurred from mid-June to early July. The Food and Drug Administration is investigating the cyclospora infections, which are most often found in tropical or subtropical countries and have been linked to imported fresh produce in the past. The illness is usually spread when people ingest foods or water contaminated with feces. The agency said it isn't yet clear whether the cases from all of the states are linked.

Document: Teen's DNA linked him to girl's death

SAGINAW, Texas (AP)—A teenager suspected of suffocating his 6-year-old neighbor with plastic bags, wrapping her body in a tarp and dumping it about a mile from her home was shot Tuesday in an exchange of gunfire with officers trying to serve arrest and search warrants. A police detective who was seriously wounded was expected to recover. He was part of a major crimes task force that went to 17-year-old Tyler Holder's home in the Fort Worth suburb of Saginaw to serve the warrants about 9 a.m. Tuesday. Holder was hospitalized, but authorities have not released his condition. According to a capital murder arrest warrant affidavit, authorities suspect Holder suffocated Alanna Gallagher, who was found with plastic bags taped around her neck.

44 rescued from Gulf rig after natural gas blowout

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Natural gas spewed uncontrolled from a well off the Louisiana coast on Tuesday after a blowout that forced the evacuation of 44 workers aboard a drilling rig, authorities said. No injuries were reported in the mid-morning blowout and there was no fire as of Tuesday evening at the site, about 55 miles off the Louisiana coast in the Gulf of Mexico. Experts from Wild Well Control Inc. were to assess the well site overnight and develop a plan to shut down the flow of gas, said Jim Noe, executive vice president of Hercules Offshore Inc., owner of the drilling rig where the blowout occurred.

Asia

Toll from China quake hits 94

» More than
1,000 injured

BEIJING (AP)—Rescuers with shovels and sniffer dogs chipped away at collapsed hillsides Tuesday as the death toll rose to 94 from a strong earthquake in a farming region of northwest China.

Just one person was listed as missing and 1,001 as injured in Monday morning's quake near the city of Dingxi in Gansu province.

About 123,000 people were affected by the quake, with 31,600 moved to temporary shelters, the provincial earthquake administration said on its website. Almost 2,000 homes were completely destroyed, and about 22,500 damaged, the administration said.

The quake toppled brick walls and telephone lines, shattered mud-and-tile-roofed houses and sent cascades of dirt and rock down hillsides, blocking roads and slowing rescue efforts by crews trying to reach remote areas.

Hospitals set up aid stations



in parking lots to accommodate the injured, while hundreds of paramilitary People's Armed Police fanned out to search for victims in the region of terraced farmland where the quake struck about 1,200 kilometers (760 miles) west of Beijing.

Min county in Dingxi's rural south accounted for almost all the deaths and the worst damage.

Urban areas where buildings are more solid were spared major damage, unlike the traditional mud and brick homes in the countryside.

Tremors were felt in the provincial capital of Lanzhou 177 ki-

lometers (110 miles) north, and as far away as Xi'an, 400 kilometers (250 miles) to the east.

The government's earthquake monitoring center said the quake was magnitude-6.6, while the U.S. Geological Survey said it was 5.9. Measurements can often vary, especially if different monitoring equipment is used.

The Chinese Red Cross said it was shipping 200 tents, 1,000 sets of household items, and 2,000 jackets to the area. Other supplies were being shipped in by the army and paramilitary police, which dispatched around 6,000 personnel and two helicopters to aid in rescue efforts.

But heavy rain is expected later in the week, raising the need for shelter and increasing the chance of further landslides.

Gansu, with a population of 26 million, is one of China's more lightly populated provinces, although the New Jersey-sized area of Dingxi has a greater concentration of farms in rolling hills terraced for crops and fruit trees. Dingxi has a population of about 2.7 million.

Myanmar releases dozens of political prisoners

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Myanmar started releasing nearly 70 political prisoners Tuesday, just days after the president promised during a European tour to free all who remain behind bars for opposing the government by the year's end.

The continued incarceration of prisoners of conscience in Myanmar, which is in the process of opening up following decades of isolation and brutal military rule, has been a key concern of the United States and other Western nations.

After Tuesday's releases, which included members of several ethnic minorities, more than 130 political prisoners are still believed to be behind bars.

Many new arrests and trials, meanwhile, are reported every month, increasingly for peaceful protests against illegal land seizures by the rich and powerful.

"It is important that the president has been releasing political prisoners," said Thet Oo, a member of the former political prisoner society. "But it's more important to stop arresting and charging those who are fighting for citizen's rights."

One of the big problems, critics say, is that all the repressive laws that put political prisoners in jail in the first place are still in place.

They accuse the government of only releasing inmates in small batches and usually for public relations purposes.

Thein Sein's tour to London and Paris was aimed in part at cleaning up his country's image following bloody sectarian violence—mostly radical Buddhist mobs targeting Muslims.

Though more than 250 people have been killed, many allegedly with the backing of security forces, he told France TV that

allegations of "ethnic cleansing" were part of a "smear campaign" by outsiders.

One of his promises during the trip was the release of more prisoners.

Ye Aung, a member of the government's political prisoner scrutiny committee, said in total 69 people were being released from various prisons across the country Tuesday.

Among them were Brang Shwng, an inmate who had been serving time at the notorious Insein prison in the northern outskirts or Yangon for alleged links to illegal organizations in the troubled state of Kachin, said Thet Oo.

Some members of Aung San Suu Kyi's opposition National League for Democracy party also were waiting for the release of prisoners in front of Mandalay prison.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Asylum seeker boat sinks off Indonesia, 157 saved

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—A boat carrying would-be asylum seekers to Australia sunk in Indonesia waters, and an official said more than 150 survivors have been rescued. At least three people died, but it's unclear how many more may be missing. The sinking comes just days after Prime Minister Kevin Rudd changed Australia's refugee policy so that people who arrive by boat will no longer be allowed to settle there. The change has drawn sharp criticism from human rights groups.

The boat sank off the West Java district of Cianjur, said Imam, an official from Indonesia's National Search and Rescue Agency, who goes by one name. He said Australian officials alerted Indonesia about the boat Tuesday night.

2 road accidents in south India kill 26

NEW DELHI (AP)—At least 26 people have died in two separate road accidents in the southern Indian state of Karnataka, police said Tuesday. A bus and a truck carrying passengers collided in the state's Bijapur district Monday after-

noon killing 18 people, said police official Ajay Hilori. The truck tried to overtake a vehicle on a curved road and crashed into the bus coming from the opposite direction. Hilori said the truck had a capacity of 16 passengers, but was carrying 22. The crash killed four women and 14 men on the truck, he said. Four others were injured, one of them critically. The bus passengers escaped with minor injuries. In another accident, an overcrowded bus veered off the road and plunged into a lake, killing eight people in Hassan district in Karnataka on Tuesday.

World

Al-Qaida claims prison raids in Iraq



In this Sept. 2, 2006 file photo, an Iraqi army armored vehicle patrols outside the Abu Ghraib prison on the outskirts of Baghdad, Iraq.

BAGHDAD (AP)—Al-Qaida's branch in Iraq claimed responsibility Tuesday for audacious raids on two high-security prisons on the outskirts of Baghdad this week that killed dozens and set free hundreds of inmates, including some of its followers.

The statement from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, the al-Qaida affiliate in Iraq, was posted on an online jihadist forum. It said months of planning went into the highly coordinated assaults on the prisons in Abu Ghraib and Taji that began late Sunday.

The attacks, among the most stunning in Iraq since a surge in violence began in April, have drawn sharp criticism from opposition lawmakers and ordinary Iraqis over government efforts to keep the country safe. The spike in bloodshed is intensifying fears of a return to the widespread sectarian killing

Jailbreaks

Al-Qaida says it was behind two mass jailbreaks which freed hundreds of prisoners.



that pushed the country to the brink of civil war after the 2003 U.S.-led invasion.

In its statement, al-Qaida in Iraq said the prison operation involved 12 car bombs, military-style barrages of rockets and mortar shells, suicide bombers and help from prisoners who had managed to

obtain weapons on the inside.

Iraqi officials have said at least 25 members of the Iraqi security forces were killed in the attacks, along with at least 21 prisoners and 10 militants.

Al-Qaida boasted that its men killed more than 120 government forces, and claimed that on its side, only the suicide bombers died in clashes that raged for hours.

Frank Finver, a spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, said the U.S. is "deeply concerned" by the attacks and the overall levels of violence in Iraq.

He said the U.S. is in contact with the government of Iraq to help improve its ability to weaken or defeat al-Qaida inside Iraq, but he gave no specific details on counterterrorism cooperation.

Iraq's central government has not provided a clear account of what happened or said how many prisoners escaped Sunday night.

Death toll from 2-day clashes in Egypt rises to 11

CAIRO (AP)—The death toll from two days of clashes between supporters and opponents of Egypt's ousted president rose to 11 on Tuesday, most killed in pre-dawn street battles near a pro-Mohammed Morsi protest camp as the country remained mired in deadly turmoil three weeks after the military overthrew the Islamist leader.

The bloodshed is widening the divisions between Morsi's supporters and the military-backed administration that took over after he was toppled and diminishing the chances of reconciliation. Fueling the anger is the continued detention of Morsi, the country's first freely elected leader, who has been held incommunicado and

without charge.

Violence has frequently broken out amid persistent rival demonstrations between the two sides, but the running street battles that began before dawn on Tuesday were among the most intense since the crisis began on July 3.

Clashes broke out after Morsi supporters began marching from their sit-in outside the main campus of Cairo university to a nearby mosque. The protesters blocked roads, causing massive traffic jams and angering residents.

Security officials said the fighting turned deadly after masked gunmen appeared at the scene and started shooting at the Morsi supporters with live ammunition and birdshot.

The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to release the information, had no word on the identity of the gunmen.

The Muslim Brotherhood, however, blamed the killings on "thugs" sponsored by the Interior Ministry, a charge the Islamist group from which Morsi hails often uses to dismiss the notion that it was at odds with other segments of the population.

Khaled el-Khateeb, who heads the Health Ministry's emergency and intensive care department, said six people were killed near the pro-Morsi sit-in. The security officials put the casualty toll at seven killed and 11 injured.

Focus

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Pope Francis' decision to shun a major security detail for his visit to Brazil exemplifies his view

of what the Catholic Church should be doing: Go out into the streets. Spread the faith. Recapture the dynamism that other denominations have been using to snap up souls.

Upon his arrival in Rio de Janeiro this week, that philosophy helped produce a defining vignette of his young papacy: The pope rolling down the window to touch the adoring crowds who surrounded his Fiat as his driver and bodyguards struggled to get him on his way.

His call for a more missionary church, seeking out the faithful in the most marginal of places, will get even more traction Thursday when he visits one of Rio's shantytowns, or favelas, and meets a family inside their home. But while his subordinates in the Roman Catholic Church may appreciate that message, many are uneasy about the lengths he seems willing to go to deliver it.

"He's used that phrase that we have to get out to the streets, we can't stay locked up in our sacristies, we can't be navel-gazing all the time," U.S. Cardinal Timothy Dolan said in interview Tuesday in Rio de Janeiro.

Dolan, however, expressed concern over Monday's swarm and said security might need to be tightened for Francis' own good.

"I love him and I don't want another conclave. We just finished one so we don't need him to be hurt at all," Dolan said.

Francis' car was mobbed after the lead car in his motorcade made a wrong turn and got blocked by buses and taxis, enabling tens of thousands of frenzied Brazilians to surround him. But even along the planned route, there were few fences and no uniformed police or armed forces, as would be expected for a visiting head of state. Just a few dozen plainclothes Vatican and Brazilian security forces trotted alongside Francis' car, at times unable to keep the crowds at bay.

On Tuesday, Brazilian security officials defended their handling of the pope's tour through Rio, saying an evaluation of his arrival by federal police, the mayor's office and highway police was "positive, since there was no incident involving the pope or with any of the faithful."

Authorities in Brazil said earlier that about 10,000 police officers and more than 14,000 soldiers would take part in the overall papal security plan, but on Monday virtually no uniformed officers were seen.

Andreas Widmer, a former Swiss Guard who protected



A member of the security detail holds up a baby to Pope Francis as he makes his way in the popemobile into central Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Monday, July 22, 2013.

Pope wants to be with people; clergy want him safe

Pope John Paul II from 1986-1988, said the scenes from Rio were reminiscent of some of the more hair-raising trips John Paul took, even after he was wounded in a 1981 assassination attempt in St. Peter's Square. He sees it as part of the pontiff's job.

"Fundamentally one has to see that the pope is not like a president," Widmer said Tuesday in a telephone interview from Boston. "You can shut the president in a house and he never sees any normal people. The pope's office is a ministry, and a ministry cannot be impeded by security."

He added, "You cannot be pope and not see people."

Sao Paulo Cardinal Odilo Scherer said that "nothing happened when the pope was stuck in traffic" and that "we shouldn't exaggerate the psychosis of security" when it comes to protecting the pope.

It is Francis' wish that his security not be "militarized," according to the Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi.

Francis stopped to kiss babies and shake hands thrust into the window of his car, and

protests that have been going on across Brazil for a month. It also was embarrassing for security officials who are charged with keeping order during next year's World Cup and the 2016 Olympics.

"I was so surprised!" said the

we saw," Tan said. "But that's the pope's personality. He was just being himself."

Francis was dubbed the "slum pope" in his native Argentina for the amount of time he spent in dangerous areas while he was archbishop there. And in a speech that some say helped get him elected pope, the former Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio told colleagues that the church must "move toward the peripheries, not only geographic but also existential."

Francis is in Brazil for World Youth Day, a church event that takes place about every three years and brings together young Catholics from around the world.

A cold rain Tuesday night didn't stop upward of 100,000 faithful from gathering on Rio's Copacabana beach to mark the event. Clergy celebrated the opening Mass on a massive white stage covered with

a bright red carpet as the crowd held aloft flags from scores of nations.

But Rio's woes didn't stop: The city's main subway lines ground to a halt for two hours, just before the Mass. Officials said an energy cable snapped in a main station.

The pope had no public events Tuesday. On Wednesday, he travels to Aparecida, where the governor said 1,800 police will provide security. Plans are for Francis to use his open-air popemobile for the one-kilometer (half-mile) trip from a helipad to the Aparecida basilica, where he'll celebrate Mass.

He's traveling to the town to venerate the Virgin of Aparecida, Brazil's patron saint. About 200,000 faithful are expected to pack into the normally sleepy hamlet, where Francis is expected to greet crowds from a balcony.

Francis normally uses the open-air vehicle in St. Peter's Square, which is ringed with Vatican and Italian police, and where the faithful are fenced into pens as bodyguards trail him. In Brazil, the vehicle will be used in substantially less controlled conditions: at a welcome speech on Copacabana beach on Thursday, a Way of the Cross procession on Friday, and a weekend vigil and Mass in a rural part of Rio.

Lombardi said the pontiff decided not to use his bulletproof popemobile at those events so he could be closer to people and interact with them.

Security experts said the scene on Rio's streets Monday show how challenging it is to strike the right balance in protecting the outgoing pope.

"From the point of view of a head of state, and the pope is a head of state, it's unacceptable what happened," said Paulo Storani, a Rio-based security consultant who spent nearly 30 years on the city's police force and was a captain in an elite unit used to clear out slums. "On the other hand, in the case of a head of a church and having a charismatic figure like this pope, the situation is different because he wants to be close to the people."

"The police intelligence units have to do a lot more work to detect potential threats to the pope's security, and there needs to be a bigger presence of plainclothes officers in the middle of the masses to ensure his security."

Ignacio Cano, a researcher at the Violence Analysis Center at Rio de Janeiro State University, said that although authorities would like to surround the pope with protection, that "goes against the message he wants to impart, which is one of simplicity, openness and approximation," Cano said. "In light of this message, isolating him from contact with the people makes no sense at all."

I love him and I don't want another conclave. We just finished one so we don't need him to be hurt at all.

once he reached Rio's center, he switched to his open-air vehicle and drove right back into the crowds.

The moment was particularly unnerving in light of sometimes violent anti-government

Rev. Joseph Tan, a priest from the Philippines who echoed the reaction of many in Rio for the papal visit.

"In the Philippines, people would have gathered to get a glimpse, but nothing like what

Life & Style

William, Kate, show off their royal newborn son

LONDON (AP)—Prince William and his wife Kate presented their newborn son to the world for the first time Tuesday, drawing whoops and wild applause from well-wishers as they revealed the new face of the British monarchy—though not, yet, his name.

“We’re still working on a name. So we’ll have that as soon as we can,” William told scores of reporters gathered outside St. Mary’s Hospital as he cradled the child.

The young family’s debut public appearance was the moment the world’s media had been waiting for, but the royal couple showed no sign of stress in the face of dozens of flashing cameras. Instead the couple, both 31, laughed and joked with reporters as they took turns holding their baby son, who appeared to doze through it all.

“He’s got her looks, thankfully,” William said, referring to his wife, the Duchess of Cambridge, as the newborn prince squirmed in his arms and poked a tiny hand out of his swaddling blanket, almost like a little royal wave.

“He’s got a good pair of lungs on him, that’s for sure,” William added with a grin. “He’s a big boy. He’s quite heavy.”

The infant is third in line to become monarch one day, after his grandfather, Prince Charles, and William.

But for now, the media and the public were focused on getting all the details of new parenthood they could from the couple: How they feel, what the baby looks like, and even who

changed the diapers.

Kate, wearing a simple baby blue dress, said William had already had a go at changing the first one.

“He’s very good at it,” she said.

Asked how she felt, she said: “It’s very emotional. It’s such a special time. I think any parent will know what this feeling feels like.”

And William poked fun at his

own lack of hair when he responded with a wink to a reporter’s question about the baby’s locks: “He’s got way more than me, thank God.”

It was a much more relaxed scene than the one when Princess Diana and Prince Charles carried their newborn son, William, out to pose for photographs on the same hospital steps in 1982.

Charles, wearing a dark suit,

tie and boutonniere, spoke awkwardly to reporters. By contrast, William, dressed in jeans and a blue shirt with the sleeves rolled up, joked with the assembled media and addressed some by name. At his side, Kate waved and smiled broadly, the blue sapphire engagement ring that had been Diana’s on her finger.

The photographs snapped Tuesday are likely to be reprinted for decades as the baby

grows into adulthood and his role as a future king, and on-lookers were elated to witness the historic moment.

“William gave us a wave as they drove away, so it was perfect. Days like this really bring the country together,” said Katie Allan, 26, from Bristol, England.

The couple re-entered the hospital to place the child in a car seat before re-emerging to get into a black Range Rover. With William at the wheel, they drove away. Palace officials said they will head to an apartment in Kensington Palace and spend the night there.

Picking a royal name that can define an era

LONDON (AP)—The Victorians. The Edwardians. The Elizabethans.

Royal names can define a generation. So imagine the pressure on the new parents to pick the right one!

Now that Prince William and his wife Kate have a baby boy—the third in line for the throne—they must choose the name for a royal who may take Britain into the 22nd century. They’ll start by considering British monarchs from the past.

Elizabeth I offered her name to the golden era in which Britannia ruled the waves and the Elizabethans consolidated a renaissance of national prosperity. Victoria’s reign was defined by rapid industrialization with straight-backed Victorian morality. Her son, Edward VII, lent his name to the champagne and cigar period before World War I in which the rigid class system came under attack.

“Names do define an era,” said Robert Lacey, a royal historian, who has written books on Prince William’s mother and grandmother. “Who knows as we look into the future what will happen.”

With so many people to please—inside and outside the palace walls—the House of Windsor is likely to pick more than one name for the boy who was born in London on Monday. After all, his father Prince William, aka William Arthur Philip Louis, has four.

There may be a nod to great grandfather Prince Philip, or grandfathers Prince Charles and Michael Middleton, Kate’s father. Or King Arthur. Or a host of other dead kings.

But the first name, that has to hit the right note. It is likely to hang around a bit.

The royals will be thinking not just what the name means to them—but also what it means to the country. And you can’t just pick any name either. It has to have gravitas. Commoner names—even classic British ones like Nigel or Rodney—won’t do.

“Names always matter,” said Albert Mehrabian, a professor emeritus of psychology at UCLA and an expert on baby names. “The public’s image of this child could quite possibly be influenced by the baby’s name.”

Noble names are steeped in history, which explains why thousands of bets have rolled in to British bookmakers for the names George and James. George evokes the steadfastness of the queen’s father, George VI, who rallied the nation during World War II. James VI united England and Scotland—and shares his name with Kate’s brother.

The impression attached to a name is important, Mehrabian said. When you think of “Alexander,” you think of Alexander the Great; “Elizabeth” and you think of Queen Elizabeth II.



AP

Britain’s Prince William and Kate, Duchess of Cambridge hold the Prince of Cambridge, Tuesday July 23, 2013, as they pose for photographers outside St. Mary’s Hospital exclusive Lindo Wing in London where the Duchess gave birth on Monday July 22.

Versace’s former Miami Beach home up for auction

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Snake-haired, golden Medusa heads still glint from the gates, the swimming pool and flower pots at 1116 Ocean Drive, vestiges of the glamour fashion designer Gianni Versace brought to South Beach before his death on his own front steps.

Though the Versace family hasn’t owned the oceanfront mansion since 2000, auctioneers hope the Italian designer’s legacy will attract bidders to the Miami Beach property when it goes up for auction Sept. 17.

Serious inquiries only, please. The minimum bid is set for \$25

million. To even see the property, potential buyers must sign a confidentiality agreement and prove they have the money to close a deal.

Here’s what comes with the house: a swimming pool inlaid with 24-karat gold tiles, gold-plated bathroom fixtures, high walls that block the sounds on busy Ocean Drive, panoramic views of the ocean from a rooftop observatory and mosaic flooring and frescos and murals custom-made for Versace himself.

Each room has been uniquely furnished by the current owner, and the furniture comes with

the sale, including beds so large they need custom-made sheets.

Half a dozen buyers have expressed interest since the auction was announced last week, said Lamar Fisher, president and CEO of Fisher Auction Company. “They range from very, very high-profile individuals and celebrities to international buyers from the Russian market to the South American market,” Fisher said.

Their new neighbors will include thousands of tourists regularly streaming past the corner property. Many pose for pictures at its front gates,

like Nicole and Daniel Francis did Tuesday.

The couple works in the fashion industry in New York City and recognized the mansion as something special, even if Versace no longer lived there.

“We’re big fashion fanatics,” Nicole Francis said. “It’s a Miami landmark.”

Fisher noted that the mansion comes with eight designated park spaces on Ocean Drive, making for a quick getaway from the tourist traffic.

“The individuals that are interested actually love the location because they can easily get to the night life of South Beach, and get right to the

cruise ships where they want to go or to their yachts and also get to the airport for their private jets,” he said.

It’s been officially named Casa Casuarina for more than a decade, but the property still commonly referred to as “the Versace mansion” was initially listed for sale at \$125 million last year. The asking price dropped to \$100 million and then last month to \$75 million.

Casa Casuarina operated as a private club and then as a boutique hotel until earlier this year. A bankruptcy court appointed Fisher Auction Company to put the property up for auction.

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DESPICABLE ME 2 3D [CC] (PG)
(235 PM) 730 PM

Times For 07/25 © 2013www.REGmovies.com

Deputies: Bynes hospitalized after starting fire

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Amanda Bynes has been hospitalized for a mental health evaluation after a witness said he spotted flames on her pant legs from a small gasoline fire in the driveway of a California home. Deputies responding to an

emergency call on Monday night said the 27-year-old actress had started the fire in the driveway in Thousand Oaks, county sheriff's Capt. Don Aguilar said.

KABC-TV said the flames were fueled by gasoline.

Deputies determined that

Bynes met the criteria for a mental health hold and took her into custody, where she can be held for 72 hours of observation, Aguilar said.

Passer-by Andrew Liverpool told KABC he found Bynes.

"It's dark, it's 8:45 and I just

see her laying down, stomach up and her pant legs on fire, a trail of, you know, fire and gas, and I pull over," he said.

No charges were filed and responding fire officials did not administer any medical care, Aguilar said.

Richard Hutton and David Feldman, who are listed as Bynes' attorneys in industry databases, refused to comment.

The former Nickelodeon actress has had several run-ins with the law. In December, she resolved a misdemeanor hit-and-run case after entering into a civil settlement with other drivers.

Jackman calls 'Wolverine' a career-defining role

NEW YORK (AP)—Whether performing on a Broadway stage, singing in a movie musical, or hosting the Oscars, Hugh Jackman approaches them all with equal intensity. Yet, when he dons Adamantium bone claws in "Wolverine," the 44-year old actor admits that something magical happens.

"It may be the strongest of all the roles I've played," Jackman says of the "X-Men" antihero.



Jackman

When the Australian actor sat down with the Associated Press before Friday's opening of "Wolverine," he honored the iconic comic book character with appropriately trimmed facial hair showing off Logan's signature muttonchops. And why not? It's the role that launched his career in the first "X-Men" film. He's already played the character six times already, and is currently shooting a seventh installment due in 2014.

"There's four or five roles that end up being the foundation of your entire career. There's no doubt to me that this (Wolverine) is one of them."

As a fan of the comic book series, Jackman says this one was important for him.

"I wanted to make (this movie) for 13 years when I first read that samurai story," the actor said. "I just think seeing this character in that world, juxtaposed with Japan in every way, I thought it was perfect and to see him battle with his powers, which really gives him an almost immortality."

Minor charges dropped in Chris Brown traffic case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Singer Chris Brown's lawyer has entered a not-guilty plea for him to a hit-and-run charge that led to his parole being revoked.

A spokesman for the Los Angeles city attorney's office says charges of driving without a license and driving without proof

of insurance were dismissed Tuesday after Brown's attorney presented proof he was licensed in Virginia.

Brown was charged after a May 12 traffic accident in which he is suspected of rear-ending a car stopped at a red light and refusing to give the

other driver his license or insurance information.

The singer has been on felony probation in the 2009 beating of former girlfriend Rihanna. A judge revoked his probation last week and ordered a hearing. His trial in the hit-and-run case is set for Aug. 15.

Actress Futerman and twin sister co-writing memoir

NEW YORK (AP)—Actress Samantha Futerman is collaborating on a book about her improbable discovery that she had an identical twin.

Futerman, whose credits include the TV series "The Big C" and the film "Memoirs of a Geisha," has a deal with G.P. Putnam's Sons. She will work on the book with Anais Bordier, the adopted daughter of a French family whose friends had seen Futerman's movies and swore that the actress and Bordier looked exactly alike.

Bordier learned that she and Futerman, who grew up in New Jersey, were born in the same town in South Korea on Nov. 19, 1987. She contacted Futerman earlier this year through

Facebook and the women discovered in May they were indeed twins.

"Our incredible twist of fate can lift one to rejoice that anything is possible, and the biggest boundaries in life are the ones we set for ourselves," Futerman said in a statement issued by Putnam, a division of Penguin Random House.

The singer has been on felony probation in the 2009 beating of former girlfriend Rihanna. A judge revoked his probation last week and ordered a hearing. His trial in the hit-and-run case is set for Aug. 15.



'I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU'

This Tuesday July 23, 2013, photo shows the new headstone at the grave of singer Whitney Houston, at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield, N.J., about 20 miles west of New York. The teardrop-shaped headstone has an inscription well known to her fans: "I will always love you." The 48-year-old pop music queen died Feb. 11, 2012, in Beverly Hills, Calif. An autopsy found she had drowned accidentally, with heart disease and cocaine use contributing to her death. She was buried next to her father in Westfield, N.J., about 20 miles west of New York. The inscription "I will always love you" is from the Dolly Parton song Houston made famous. AP

Readers take Abby to task for being too easy on dad

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: I have read you for years, and I must take issue with your answer to "Needs the Right Words" (March 17). He asked about his son and his son's half-brother visiting his beach house. (He didn't want the half-brother included.)

While you addressed the writer's needs, and yes, he is entitled to his feelings, I think you should have taken this a step further.

Once you become a father, it is not all about "you" anymore. The 12-year-old boy is now, and forever will be, his son's half-brother. Unless this man wants to distance himself from his son and cause permanent damage to their relationship, he needs to get some therapy so he will be able to think of that boy in a different way and can deal with him in the future. He is NOT in a "good place" as he stated if seeing this boy causes such an emotional issue. The two boys seem to have a good relationship, and a future with his son will—and should—include the half-brother, even if the visits are short ones.

Someday that boy will be a grown man, and he will recognize the kindness shown to him. The boy is not responsible for his mother's behavior and the father needs to realize that.

DEBORAH IN CHANDLER, ARIZ.

DEAR DEBORAH: You are right. It would have been better for all concerned if I had been harder on the father and more sensitive to the feelings of the boys involved, which many readers pointed out to me:

DEAR ABBY: I almost always agree with your answers, but your answer to that letter was off the mark. It's admirable that his son has such a close relationship with his half-brother, and not allowing the boys to do something they enjoy together for a weekend is wrong. That the writer admits he still has problems with the past is his problem, not the kids'.

Since he admits it brings up feelings he THOUGHT he had put behind him, he should get professional help to finally deal with those unresolved issues. Also, if he doesn't want the 12-year-old in his house for one weekend of fun, then he should take his wife away for a romantic weekend and let the boys use the beach house in his absence. It's all about compromise, not the ultimatum.

BEEN THERE, DONE THAT IN KANSAS

DEAR ABBY: Tell that man to get a psychotherapist! The child isn't responsible for his mother's behavior. The man needs to expand his heart. When he's an old man he will never regret hosting the boy, but he WOULD regret having hurt a child and perhaps alienating his own son in the process. You called that one wrong, Abby!

LESLIE R., CHAMPAIGN, ILL.

DEAR ABBY: I agree with your advice more often than not, although I suspect we are at opposite ends of the political spectrum. That father needs to grow up and put the feelings of his son and his son's half-brother before his own. It's time people learned once more what it means NOT to be selfish and think of their own feelings, but the feelings of others. Please reconsider your response.

PAUL W., JOHNSON CITY, TENN.

DEAR PAUL: I have, and I regret my initial answer.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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CHART TOPPERS

The top 10 songs and albums on the iTunes Store for the week ending July 21, 2013:

TOP SONGS

1. "Blurred Lines (feat. T.I. & Pharrell)," Robin Thicke
2. "We Can't Stop," Miley Cyrus
3. "Holy Grail (feat. Justin Timberlake)," JAY Z
4. "Radioactive," Imagine Dragons
5. "Get Lucky (feat. Pharrell Williams)," Daft Punk
6. "Treasure," Bruno Mars
7. "Same Love (feat. Mary Lambert)," Macklemore & Ryan Lewis
8. "Cups (Pitch Perfect's "When I'm Gone") (Pop Version)," Anna Kendrick
9. "Safe and Sound," Capital Cities
10. "Can't Hold Us (feat. Ray Dalton)," Macklemore & Ryan Lewis

TOP ALBUMS

1. "Magna Carta... Holy Grail," JAY Z
2. "The Blessed Unrest," Sara Bareilles

3. "Teen Beach Movie (Soundtrack)," Various Artists
4. "The 20/20 Experience," Justin Timberlake
5. "Trials & Tribulations," Ace Hood
6. "Night Visions," Imagine Dragons
7. "The 20/20 Experience — 2 of 2," Justin Timberlake
8. "Surfers Paradise," Cody Simpson
9. "Paradise Valley," John Mayer
10. "Hail to the King," Avenged Sevenfold

The top iPhone and iPad apps on App Store for the week ending July 21, 2013:

TOP PAID IPHONE APPS

1. Where's My Mickey?, Disney
2. Contra: Evolution, PunchBox Studios
3. Minecraft—Pocket Edition, Mojang
4. Heads Up!, Warner Bros.
5. AfterLight, Simon Filip
6. Smart Alarm Clock: sleep cycles & noise recording, Plus Sports
7. Plants vs. Zombies, PopCap

8. Block Fortress, Foursaken Media
9. Free Music Download Pro — Mp3 Downloader, ASPS Apps
10. Breach & Clear, Gun.

TOP FREE IPHONE APPS

1. Despicable Me: Minion Rush, Gameloft
2. Candy Crush Saga, King.com Limited
3. The Idiot Test 3, Nexx Studio
4. Can You Escape, Kaarel Kiripuu
5. Riddle Me That, Gummy Crush
6. Google Maps, Google, Inc.
7. YouTube, Google, Inc.
8. WhatsApp Messenger, WhatsApp Inc.
9. Snapchat, Snapchat, Inc.
10. Instagram, Burbn, Inc.

TOP PAID IPAD APPS

1. Minecraft—Pocket Edition, Mojang
2. Where's My Mickey? XL, Disney
3. Plants vs. Zombies HD, PopCap
4. Breach & Clear, Gun.

5. Doc McStuffins: Time For Your Check Up!, Disney
6. Sprinkle Islands, Mediocre AB
7. SpongeBob Moves In, Nickelodeon
8. Block Fortress, Foursaken Media
9. iStoryTime — Turbo Movie Storybook Deluxe, zuuka incorporated
10. Survivalcraft, Igor Kalicinski

TOP FREE IPAD APPS

1. Despicable Me: Minion Rush, Gameloft
2. Monster Doctor — kids games, George CL
3. Candy Crush Saga, King.com Limited
4. Google Maps, Google, Inc.
5. PAC-MAN DASH!, NamcoBanda Games Inc.
6. Doctor X — Med School, Kids Fun Club by TabTale
7. Angry Birds Star Wars HD, Rovio Entertainment Ltd
8. Turbo Racing League, PikPok
9. Disney Princess Palace Pets, Disney
10. YouTube, Google, Inc.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

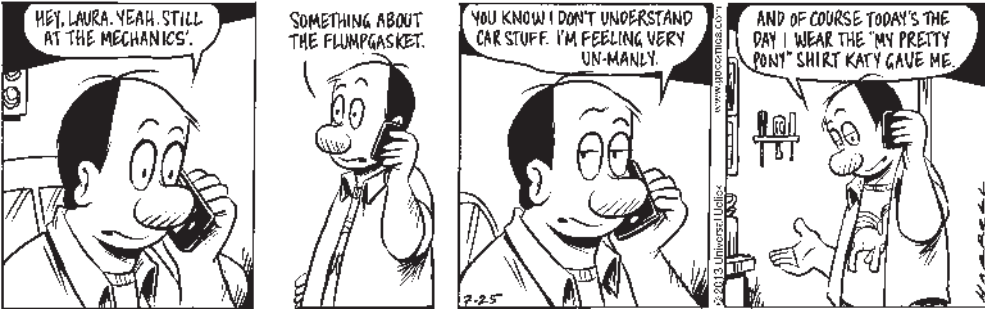


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

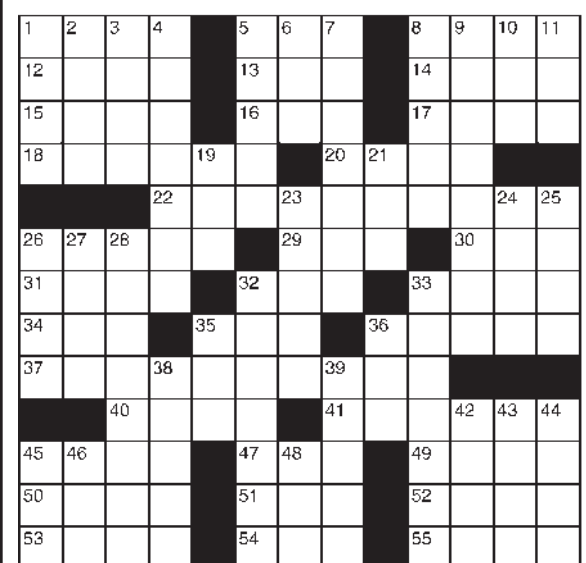
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Tolerate
5 Fix a skirt
8 Egyptian bird
12 "Novus — Seclo-rum"
13 Eggs
14 Make over
15 Place
16 "— the fields we go"
17 Big bothers
18 Distance
20 Body art, for short
22 Black Sabbath's genre
26 Host
29 Turn on the water-works
30 Away from WSW
31 Praise highly
32 Common interjec-tions
33 Destiny
34 Ctrl + — + Del
- DOWN**
- 35 Bot. or phys.
36 Respect-able person?
37 Rudolf Friml's genre
40 Slender
41 Diamond-pattern fabric
45 Muscat's country
47 Neither mate
49 "Let's Make a Deal" option
50 Platter
51 Possess
52 Related
53 Tea-spoonful, maybe
54 In medias —
55 Longings
1 Weevil's target
2 Great Lake
3 Mideast-ern gulf
4 — it (lived primi-tively)
5 Uproar
6 Leading lady
7 Constant sufferers
8 Angry
9 Four-poster frame-work
10 Altar affir-mative
11 "Mayday!"
19 Fairway gizmo
21 Grant or Irving
23 TV blocker
24 Initial stake
25 Lecher-ous look
26 Israeli airline
27 Sudanese Republic, now
28 Patterned bowls, vases, etc.
32 First female Supreme Court Justice
33 June 14
35 Depot (Abbr.)
36 Blunder
38 Therefore
39 Deserves
42 Oxen connector
43 Pork portion
44 Sea flock
45 Peculiar
46 "O Sole —"

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 7-25



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Nelson Piquet Jr., 28; James Lafferty, 28; Matt LeBlanc, 46; Illeana Douglas, 48.

Happy Birthday: Listen carefully and you will avoid misunderstandings. Adaptability will be the key to getting ahead with the least amount of interference. Turn any limitation or obstacle you face into something positive, and you will master the art of mindfulness. Reunite with people you have worked with in the past, and new prospects will open up. Your numbers are 6, 9, 12, 24, 30, 43, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Nurture your important relationships and focus on home, family and your surroundings. Don't make unnecessary changes, but do alter what will make your life better. Express your interests and desires and embrace feedback with thought and courtesy. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Express your thoughts and make plans with the people you cherish most. Visiting a friend will lift your spirits. Love is on the rise, and socializing or getting in touch with someone you care about will improve your life. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Put greater emphasis on how you earn your living or what you are doing to raise your profile. Don't be afraid to do things a little differently. It's your diversification that will lead to success. A change will be beneficial. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): An emotional situation may be difficult to decipher. What you see won't give you a true assessment of the situation. Ask questions

and refrain from overreacting. Once you get the facts, you will see the benefits. Love is on the rise. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can make changes, but don't be too vocal about your plans. Someone is likely to try to restrict you. A change of location, travel plans or gathering information that will help you advance should be your focus. Don't let love cost you. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Size up your situation and make a move. You have more influence than you realize, and you can overcome the pressures of anyone trying to slow you down. Conversations will put you in a good position and help you drum up additional support. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll face confrontations if you are too vocal. Go about your business, making sure you get chores out of the way to avoid criticism. Don't push others or allow anyone to push you into something you don't care to do. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You really need a getaway or a diversion to spark your creative imagination or enhance your love life. Dream and take action. It's time to make things happen. Use your will coupled with desire and you will reach your goals. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put your time and effort into personal matters. Taking care of investments, medical conditions or legal matters will help stabilize your life. A change at home may not be welcomed, but it will prove to be beneficial. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Strategy, hard work and utilizing your knowledge and experience will pay off. Physical self-improvements will result in compliments and a new lease on life. A partnership will enhance your future and bring about new opportunities and greater prosperity. ★★★★★



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Assess your situation. Take a hard look at your finances and figure out what you must do to improve your current lifestyle. By utilizing your skills and the connections you have, there will be a unique way for you to make positive changes. ★★★



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Network, socialize and expand your interests, and you will get ahead. Take the road less traveled and focus on the services you can offer your community in order to raise awareness as well as your profile. Greater prosperity is heading your way. ★★★

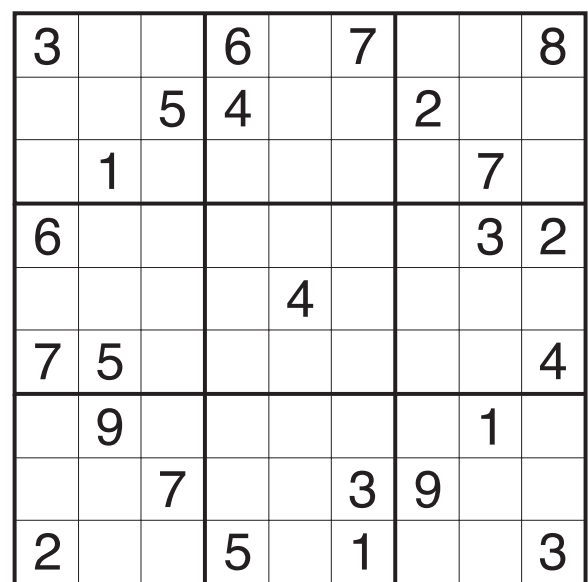
Birthday Baby: You are sensitive and unusual. You are intelligent, intuitive and curious.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

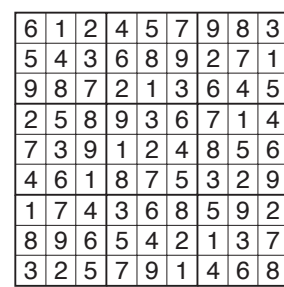


Difficulty Level ★★★

7/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★

7/24

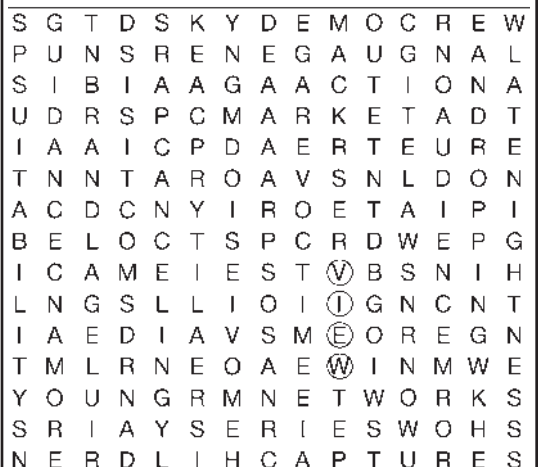
WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

TELEVISION RATINGS

Solution: 8 letters

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7/25

Action, Adult, Advisory, Ages, Airst, Audience, Brand, Broadcast, Canceling, Capture, Children, Comedy, Coverage, Crew, Critic, Cropping, Drama, Dropping, Guidance, Idea, Language, Late Night, Laws, Legal, Market, Movies, Networks, News, Post, Rank, Reality, Romance, Scene, Sent, Series, Shows, Sitcoms, Subscription, Suitability, Time, View, Young

Yesterday's Answer: Historical

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 33, 34, 35, 36 or 37, call 1-800-642-6480. Order on me at wonderword.universalsyndicate.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

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Players deplore doping rather than defend users



NEWYORK
(AP)—Pro-

jective no more, baseball players are downright disgusted these days with doping.

Now they are demanding even stiffer suspensions for those caught cheating.

"It's a new generation of athletes that are standing up," Travis Tygart, chief executive of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, said Tuesday. "The culture's been flipped on its head."

When Ryan Braun accepted a season-ending 65-game suspension Monday rather than fight Major League Baseball over evidence he used performance-enhancing drugs, fellow players appeared tired of those who cast shadows on the sport.

"They're lying to the fans," Los Angeles Angels pitcher C.J. Wilson said. "They're lying to their teammates. They're lying to their GMs, their owners, and they're going to get caught."

Skip Schumaker of the Los Angeles Dodgers said Braun, the 2011 NL MVP for the Milwaukee Brewers, let him down.

"Watching him talk right now makes me sick," Schumaker said. "I have an autographed Braun jersey in my baseball room that I'll be taking down. I don't want my son identifying what I've worked so hard to get to and work so hard to have—I don't want him comparing Braun to me."

Matt Kemp of the Los Angeles Dodgers, who finished second to Braun in the 2011 MVP vote, said the Milwaukee slugger should be stripped of the honor.

"We had conversations, and I considered him a friend," Kemp said. "I don't think anybody likes to be lied to, and I feel like a lot of people have felt betrayed."

Braun tested positive for elevated testosterone in October 2011 but successfully overturned a 50-game penalty when an arbitrator ruled the outfielder's urine sample was handled improperly. Braun loudly proclaimed his innocence then.

"I thought this whole thing has been despicable on his part," Detroit pitcher Max



In this Feb. 24, 2012 file photo, Milwaukee Brewers' Ryan Braun speaks during a news conference at baseball spring training in Phoenix. AP

Scherzer said. "When he did get caught, he never came clean. He tried to question the ability of the collector when he was caught red-handed. So that's why the whole Braun situation, there is so much player outrage toward him."

Arizona pitcher Brad Ziegler remembered back to the 2011 NL division series, when the Brewers beat the Diamondbacks 3-2 in a best-of-five playoff as Braun went 9 for 18 with a home run and four RBIs.

"Obviously it affected the series, because that's right when the positive test occurred. That's when it was highest in his system, and he torched us that series," Ziegler said. "We can't put it all on that. Looking back on it, we walked away from that series knowing we should have won it before we heard he tested positive. At least he didn't get

away with it now."

New York Yankees manager Joe Girardi said Braun was guilty.

"You don't accept a deal unless you're guilty," he said.

"It's another black eye for our game. I know this game is very resilient, and there's been a lot of scandals over the years, but you get tired of it," Girardi added.

He may soon face his own problem with a star slugger.

More than a dozen players have been targeted by MLB in its probe of the closed anti-aging clinic Biogenesis of America, including three-time AL MVP Alex Rodriguez of the Yankees.

The next step will be for MLB to inform the union of additional players it intends to penalize, which could happen as early as a meeting on Thurs-

day, a person familiar with the investigation said, speaking on condition of anonymity because no statements were authorized.

New York expects A-Rod could face a much harsher penalty than the one Braun agreed to, a second person familiar with the case said, also speaking on condition of anonymity because no statements were authorized.

The Yankees anticipate Rodriguez could be accused of using PEDs over multiple seasons, of recruiting other athletes for the clinic, of attempting to obstruct MLB's investigation, and of not being truthful with MLB in the past when he discussed his relationship with Dr. Anthony Galea, who pleaded guilty two years ago to a U.S. federal charge of bringing unapproved drugs from Canada into

the United States.

Players have the right to have an arbitrator decide whether discipline meets the "just cause" standard in baseball's drug agreement. Braun's decision not to fight led others to conclude a grievance would have been futile.

"Obviously the evidence was overwhelming, and it must have been a mountain of

Tigers' Cabrera says hip feeling better

CHICAGO (AP)—A relieved Miguel Cabrera said he was feeling better after sitting out the Detroit Tigers' 6-2 victory over the Chicago White Sox on Tuesday night because of an injured left hip.

He also said he did not go for an MRI and was not sure when he would return to the lineup. Manager Jim Leyland said that could happen that could happen within the next two days against Chicago, and he doesn't expect Cabrera to wind up on the disabled list.

"I doubt very much he'll play (Wednesday)," Leyland said. "I can assure you, he's not going to play both these games the next two days. ... Will he play one? I can't answer that. But if he played (Wednesday) night, he certainly wouldn't play the day game. I don't know if he'll play either of the two, to be honest with you."

The American League MVP and Triple Crown winner, Cabrera left Monday's 7-3 win over Chicago in the fifth inning. He was replaced at third base by Don Kelly with one out in the bottom half of the inning—af-

it," Tygart said.

"I think it speaks volumes for the generation of athletes today who don't want to be forced to make the same mistakes of the past generation who felt compelled in order to compete to use these dangerous drugs," he said. "I think absolutely that's a huge sign that the culture has turned in a huge direction from where it was in the late '90s and early 2000s."

In the wake of Braun's suspension, a chain of 300 convenience stores in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa cut ties with him. Gary Gonczy, director of marketing and advertising for Kwik Trip, Inc., said in an email Tuesday that the company will no longer use Braun as a spokesman.

Despite Braun's ban, Kemp has no shot at claiming the MVP trophy. The Baseball Writers' Association of America has said repeatedly that it will not revisit any of its award votes.

"The decision was already made. He won it," said Jack O'Connell, the BBWAA's secretary-treasurer.

Commissioner Bud Selig said in March he wants even stiffer drug penalties, and union head Michael Weiner said players will consider toughened rules for 2014.

While Braun's 65-game penalty is 15 games longer than the current standard for a first offense, Scherzer thinks it's insufficient.

"The Brewers are unlikely to make the playoffs. He misses 2013, and they are set for 2014," he said. "For someone that cheated the game as badly as he did, it just doesn't seem right."

ter scoring in the top half—and walked off holding his left side.

The Tigers said then that he had a sore hip flexor muscle and would be evaluated on Tuesday.

Kelly was at third base and batting eighth on Tuesday night. Left fielder Matt Tuiasosopo had the No. 3 spot in the lineup.

Cabrera, who became baseball's first Triple Crown winner in 45 years last season, had played in 97 of Detroit's 98 games this year. He was leading the majors with a .358 batting average and was second in RBIs with 96.

In other injury-related news, Leyland said second baseman Omar Infante, on the disabled list with a sprained left ankle, could soon begin a rehab assignment. Assuming no setbacks from Tuesday's workout, Leyland said Infante would leave for Class A West Michigan on Wednesday and could rejoin the Tigers this weekend.

"That's the scenario we're hoping for," Leyland said.

He also said left-hander Darin Downs, out with tendinitis in his pitching shoulder, is "probably close to going out and pitching. But I can't tell you when."

Kemp says Braun should lose MVP award

TORONTO (AP)—Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder Matt Kemp, who finished runner-up to Ryan Braun in voting for the 2011 National League Most Valuable Player award, thinks the suspended Milwaukee Brewers slugger should be stripped of the honor.

Braun finished with 388 points and 20 first-place votes, to 332 and 10 for Kemp. Major League Baseball attempted to suspend Braun following a positive test that October for elevated testosterone, but the penalty was overturned by an arbitrator who ruled Braun's urine sample was handled improperly.

Braun agreed Monday to a 65-game suspension for unspecified violations of baseball's drug rules and labor contract.

Asked Tuesday whether the award should be taken away from Braun, Kemp responded: "I mean, yeah, I do," pausing and adding, "I feel like it should be, but that's not for me to decide, you know?"

Kemp said people feel "betrayed" by Braun.

"I'm disappointed," Kemp said. "I talked to Braun before any of this happened, we had conversations and I considered him a friend. I don't think anybody likes to be lied to and

I feel like a lot of people have felt betrayed. That's not just me, that's the whole Brewers organization, a lot of his teammates. I think a lot of people feel that way."

Jack O'Connell, secretary-treasurer of the Baseball Writers' Association of America, said the award vote was final.

"The decision was already made. He won it," O'Connell said in an email Monday.

Kemp said he wasn't as comfortable as teammate Skip Schumaker in being openly critical. Schumaker said Monday that Braun should receive a lifetime ban, adding that he

Lester pitches Red Sox to 6-2 win over Rays



BOSTON
(A P) —

Jon Lester matched his season high with eight strikeouts and overcame homers by Wil Myers and Evan Longoria as the Boston Red Sox remained in first place with a 6-2 win over the Tampa Bay Rays on Tuesday night.

The Red Sox moved 1 1/2 games ahead of the Rays in the AL East and stayed atop the division for the 58th consecutive day.

The loss ended the Rays' six-game winning streak and was just their third in 21 games, a surge that began when they were in fourth place, trailing the Red Sox by seven games.

Jose Iglesias hit a two-run single for Boston, which is 3-4 since its four-game winning streak.

Lester (9-6) gave up two runs and seven hits with no walks in 6 1-3 innings. Four Red Sox pitchers combined for 13 strikeouts.

Roberto Hernandez (5-11) allowed three runs in five innings.

Yankees 5, Rangers 4

In Arlington, Texas, Eduardo Nunez hit a tying triple, Brent Lillibridge followed with a go-ahead single and New York rallied against All-Star closer Joe Nathan in the ninth inning to beat Texas.

The Yankees' comeback got started when Vernon Wells drew a one-out walk against Nathan (1-1), who had converted 15 consecutive save chances and 31 of 32 this season. Texas had been 51-0 when leading after eight innings.

Mariano Rivera, who set up Nathan's save in the All-Star game a week earlier, struck out two in a perfect ninth for his 32nd save, extending his career record to 640.

Joba Chamberlain (2-0) got help in his perfect eighth when center fielder Brett Gardner made two incredible catches.

The Rangers erased a 3-0 deficit with four unearned runs in the sixth after Lillibridge's error at third base. Texas led 4-3 after Mitch Moreland greeted reliever Boone Logan with a two-run homer.

Tigers 6, White Sox 2

In Chicago, Rick Porcello pitched four-hit ball over seven scoreless innings, Jhonny Peralta homered and Detroit took advantage of four errors in a victory over Chicago.

With MVP and Triple Crown winner Miguel Cabrera sidelined by a sore hip, the AL Central leaders again got all the help they needed from Chicago. One night after matching what was a season high with three errors and giving up five unearned runs in a 7-3 loss to the Tigers, the White Sox managed to outdo themselves.

The four errors matched their highest total since a game at

Kansas City on April 6, 2011, and gave them 68 in all—two shy of last year's total. They also matched a season high by falling 19 games below .500.

Peralta hit a solo drive off Hector Santiago (3-6) in a three-run sixth.

Porcello (7-6) won his third straight start after dropping three in a row.

Royals 3, Orioles 2

In Kansas City, Mo., Bruce Chen tossed six strong innings, Greg Holland pitched out of a ninth-inning jam and Kansas City held on to end Baltimore's season-best five-game winning streak.

Holland, who earned his 25th save in 27 chances, gave up a leadoff single in the ninth to Nick Markakis and an RBI triple to Adam Jones. Holland preserved the victory by striking out Chris Davis and retiring J.J. Hardy and Henry Urtutia on grounders.

Chen (4-0), making his second start since replacing Luis Mendoza in the rotation, limited the Orioles to three hits and one run, retiring his final 10 batters.

Manny Machado homered for Baltimore. Jason Hammel (7-7) gave up 10 hits in six innings for the second straight start.

Mariners 4, Indians 3

In Seattle, Kyle Seager had three hits, Mike Zunino drove in the go-ahead run for the second straight night and surging Seattle beat Cleveland for its eighth straight victory.

Playing without ailing manager Eric Wedge for a second consecutive game, the Mariners took advantage of defensive miscues by the Indians and received solid pitching to extend the longest current win streak in the majors. The last time Seattle won nine in a row was 2003.

Erasmus Ramirez (1-1) pitched 5 2-3 innings for the win. Tom Wilhelmssen worked out of a jam in the ninth for his 23rd save thanks to a baserunning blunder by Drew Stubbs that led to an unlikely double play.

Zach McAllister (4-6) took the loss.

Wedge remained in the hospital following dizzy spells during batting practice Monday. Bench coach Robby Thompson improved to 2-0 as the Mariners' fill-in manager.

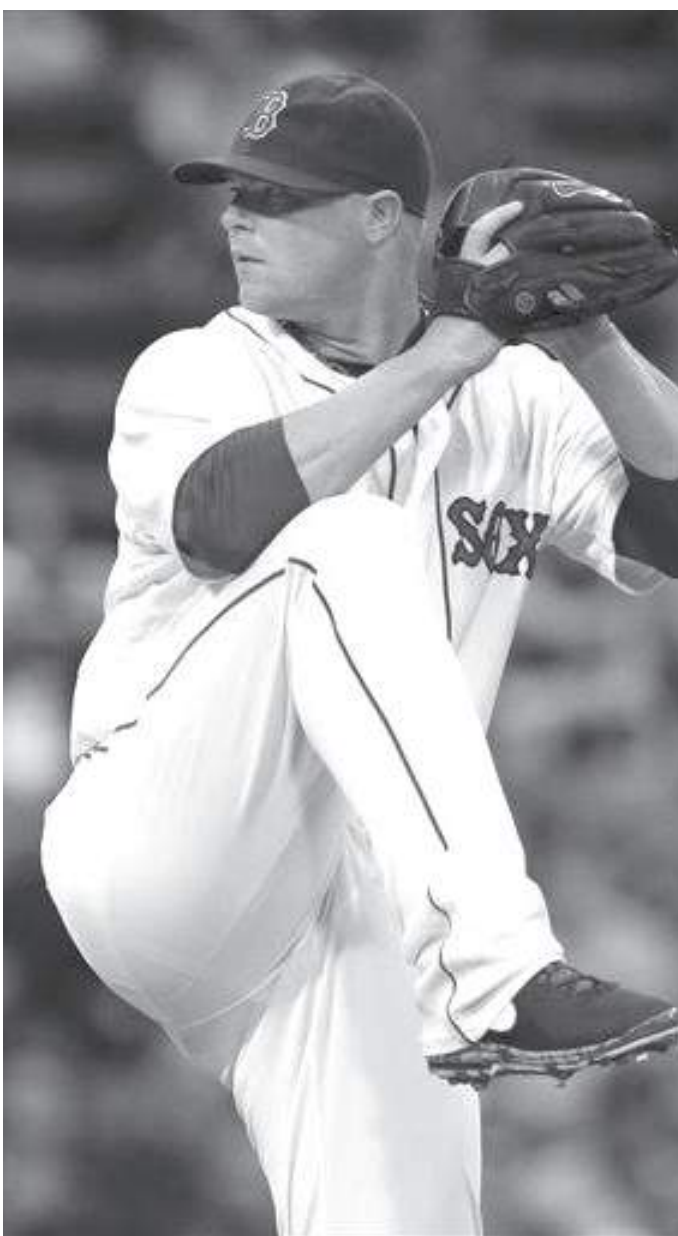
The Indians have dropped four of five following the All-Star break.

Astros 5, Athletics 4

In Houston, Jonathan Villar scored the winning run from second base in the ninth inning on a throwing error by catcher Derek Norris to give Houston a comeback win over Oakland.

The Astros improved to 1-10 against the A's this season and ended a six-game skid overall.

Houston trailed 4-2 entering the ninth before Matt Dominguez hit a two-run homer off



Boston Red Sox starting pitcher Jon Lester delivers to the Tampa Bay Rays during the first inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston on Tuesday, July 23, 2013.

closer Grant Balfour (0-2). That ended a franchise-record streak of 44 straight saves for Balfour, the sixth-longest run in major league history. It was his first blown save since April 29, 2012.

Villar, playing his second big league game, doubled with one out and Jose Altuve walked. Altuve got hung up between first and second when Norris blocked a ball in the dirt, but the catcher's low throw to first skittered into right field. Villar hustled around and scored with a headfirst slide.

Brandon Moss put Oakland on top 4-2 with a two-run homer in the eighth.

Josh Fields (1-1) pitched a scoreless ninth for the win.

Twins 10, Angels 3, 10 innings

In Anaheim, Calif., Chris Herrmann, making an emergency start behind the plate for expectant father Joe Mauer, hit his first career grand slam in a seven-run 10th inning that sent Minnesota past Los Angeles.

Ryan Doumit snapped a 3-all tie in the 10th with an RBI double against closer Ernesto Frieri (0-2). Herrmann followed a one-out intentional walk to Clete Thomas with his second big league homer and Minnesota's first grand slam since Mauer's shot off Kansas City's Luke Hochevar last Sept. 1.

No. 9 hitter Pedro Florimon

capped the rally with a two-run shot against Billy Buckner.

Albert Pujols and Mark Trumbo homered for the Angels.

Mauer was scratched just before gametime and left the team to be with his wife, Maddie, who went into labor with twins.

All-Star closer Glen Perkins (2-0) allowed the tying run in the ninth on a bases-loaded walk to Erick Aybar before retiring J.B. Shuck on an inning-ending double play.

Dodgers 10, Blue Jays 9

In Toronto, Adrian Gonzalez hit a three-run homer, Andre Ethier and Jerry Hairston Jr. added solo shots and the streaking Los Angeles Dodgers beat Toronto for their fifth straight victory and 22nd in 27 games.

Gonzalez, Ethier and Mark Ellis each had three RBIs as the Dodgers won their ninth straight road game, matching their longest streak since July 2004.

Hairston homered in the sixth and Gonzalez erased an 8-6 deficit with a drive to center off Darren Oliver (3-2) in the eighth, his 15th. One out later, Ethier went deep for the seventh time.

Former Blue Jays right-hander Brandon League (4-3) got two outs for the win.

Kenley Jansen allowed J.P. Arencibia's RBI single in the ninth but finished for his 12th save, getting Brett Lawrie to fly

out to the warning track in left with two on.

Jose Reyes, Jose Bautista and Mark DeRosa homered for the struggling Blue Jays, who closed their clubhouse for a players-only meeting before the game but couldn't hold onto an 8-3 lead after six innings. Toronto has lost six straight and 13 of 17.

Giants 3, Reds 2

In San Francisco, Pablo Sandoval hit a two-run double to help Bruce Bochy earn his 1,500th win as a manager, and the San Francisco Giants split a straight doubleheader with the Cincinnati Reds with a victory in the nightcap.

Hunter Pence hit an RBI single, Gregor Blanco had a sacrifice fly, and Brandon Belt added an RBI groundout in San Francisco's first win in six tries against the Reds this season after being outscored 34-6 in the first five meetings — including 11-0 on Monday night and 9-3 in the opener Tuesday. The Reds had 10 hits after combining for 32 in the first two games.

The teams were forced to make up a July 4 rainout at Great American Ball Park. Cincinnati batted last and wore home uniforms as the visiting team.

Cardinals 4, Phillies 1

In St. Louis, Shelby Miller threw six shutout innings and Allen Craig drove in a pair of runs to lead St. Louis to a win over Philadelphia.

Miller (10-6) gave up three hits while striking out six and walking one. He is the third St. Louis starter to reach double-digits in wins, joining Adam Wainwright (13-5) and Lance Lynn (11-5).

The Cardinals have won four of five and 10 of 13. Philadelphia lost its third straight game.

Edward Mujica picked up his 29th save in 31 opportunities. Yadier Molina and David Freese also drove in runs for the Cardinals.

Jonathan Pettibone (5-4) allowed three runs on seven hits over five innings for the Phillies.

Pirates 5, Nationals 1

In Washington, Gerrit Cole pitched seven strong innings to end a personal three-game losing streak and added an RBI single to lead Pittsburgh over Washington.

Cole (5-3) turned in the best outing of his young career, allowing a run on two hits in his eighth career start. Pedro Alvarez homered and singled, and Russell Martin had three hits for the Pirates, who won their third straight game.

Wilson Ramos homered for Washington, which had just three hits. The Nationals have lost five straight and 10 of 12.

Washington's Taylor Jordan (0-3) allowed five runs, four earned, in 7 2-3 innings.

Mets 4, Braves 1

In New York, Carlos Torres pitched six impressive innings as a fill-in starter and had an RBI single, Ike Davis had a go-ahead double in a three-run sixth and New York beat Atlanta.

John Buck had a run-scoring single and Juan Lagares a sacrifice fly in a sixth inning that helped the Mets beat Atlanta's Kris Medlen (6-10) for the first time in eight starts.

Torres (1-1) gave up seven hits, including a home run to Andrelton Simmons on the second pitch of the game, in his second start of the season, pitching out of trouble in the first four innings.

Medlen lost his third straight start, giving up four runs and seven hits in 5 1-3 innings. He dropped to 4-1 in 18 outings against New York.

Marlins 4, Rockies 2

In Denver, rookie Jose Fernandez tossed seven strong innings and Christian Yelich went 3 for 4 with two RBIs in his major league debut, lifting Miami to a victory over Colorado.

Fernandez (6-5) baffled the Rockies all evening as he pitched out of several jams and limited one of the league's top-hitting teams to five hits and two runs. He also struck out eight.

Giancarlo Stanton provided some insurance with a solo homer in the eighth and Adeiny Hechavarria had an RBI double for the Marlins, who have taken two straight in the four-game series.

Padres 6, Brewers 2

In Milwaukee, Nick Hundley and Will Venable each homered, and Tyson Ross won for the first time in over a year as San Diego beat Milwaukee.

Hundley was 3 for 4 with three runs batted in for San Diego, which won back-to-back games for the first time since June 20-21.

Ross (1-4) earned his first victory since May 14, 2012. The right-hander gave up just two hits and one run. He struck out six and walked two in a season-high six innings.

Diamondbacks 10, Cubs 4

In Phoenix, A.J. Pollock doubled, tripled and drove in three runs, and Patrick Corbin scattered four hits over six innings to help Arizona beat Chicago.

Corbin (12-1) allowed one run, struck out six and walked three for the Diamondbacks, who won for the second time in five games since the All-Star break to remain a half-game behind the first-place Los Angeles Dodgers in the NL West.

Eric Chavez also tripled and had three RBIs. Martin Prado homered and Paul Goldschmidt added a run-scoring double for Arizona, which reached 10 runs for the first time since June 21.

2013 Bridge Capital, LLC Half Marathon

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Men's 10K winner Dan Calvo is flanked by runners-up Dencio Bautista, left, and Ariel Lansingan during the awards ceremony for the 2013 Bridge Capital, LLC Half Marathon last Sunday at Micro Beach.



From left, 5K winners Angel Marie Tan and Margaret Rose pose with race organizer Brad Ruszala.



The Top 3 finishers in the women's 10K, from left, runner-up Lorie Hutchison, champion Mamiko Oshima-Berger, and third placer Yurie Clarange pose are joined by race organizer Brad Ruszala for a group photo.



MTB race champion Noel Altamirano, second left, is joined by runners-up Peter Prestley, second right, Samson Tan, right, and race organizer Brad Ruszala, left, for a group photo.



Men's half marathon winners, from left, runner-up Charlie Sendin, champion Butch Sublemente, and third placer Manny Aaron, pose with their medals.



Half marathon winner Agnes Khang, center, poses with runner-up Karina Cerezo, right, and race organizer Brad Ruszala, left.



Road bike race Top 3 finishers Nap Dizon, Erico Castro, and Jerome Diyco smile for the camera.



Men's 5K champion Gary Bandoja and runner-up David Boyer pose with their medals.



MTB race winners Kimiko Hasegawa, center, and Kaity Mattos pose with their prizes from IT&E.

Players deplore
doping rather
than defend
users

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Lester pitches
Red Sox to
6-2 win over
Rays

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Mobil, PIC share second spot



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Mobil and Pacific Islands Club forced a tie for second place in the Emon Lodge No. 179 Brotherhood Basketball League 2013/Docomo Pacific Cup after downing separate foes last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



Mobil walloped KFC/Taco Bell in the first game, 103-80, to improve to a 3-2 record, the same mark PIC holds after defeating the Blazers in the second match of the night, 71-63. KFC/Taco Bell joined the three-way tie for the No. 2 spot after the 23-point loss to Mobil. AXE Proa leads the nine-squad league with its perfect 5-0 record, while the Blazers are at the bottom of the team standings with a dismal 0-5 slate.

The Blazers had a good start, leading at 9-2, but started relinquish-

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Adobo keeps unbeaten record



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Fong's Flip Top's Emerson Feria, center, has nowhere to go, as he is sandwiched by Adobo's Jun Javier, left, and Adrian Palacios during the first quarter of their game in the DL Corp. caging last Monday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Adobo is still perfect in the 2013 DL Corporation Invitational Basketball League, following a 69-50 win over Fong's Flip Top last Monday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

The victory was the third in as many games for Adobo, which

leads the seven-team Pool B. Fong's Flip Top absorbed its second loss and had its two-game winning streak snapped.

A 13-2 start was all Adobo needed to derail Fong's Flip Top, which tried a comeback in the third period, but simply could not overhaul its foe's big lead.

Shane Deleon Guerrero scored 8 of Adobo's first 13

See ADOBO on Page 26

Pacific Islands Club's Nicko Salem drives against the Blazers's Juan Maratita, right, and Dexter Mendiola, second left, during the third quarter of their game in the Emon Lodge caging last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Talavera nips Omechelang in July roll-offs

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The winner in the SBA/Budweiser King of the Lanes Tournament for July at the Saipan Bowling Center was decided by only one pin with Robert Talavera nosing out Percy Omechelang, 839-838.

Talavera prevailed in the close fight for the July crown after knocking down 200-plus pins in the first three games last Monday—236, 216, 209. Omechelang recorded 204 and 247 pinfalls in Game 1 and 3 and adding his 198 in Game



Gina Sablan, left, and Robert Talavera pose with their prizes after winning the SBA/Budweiser July roll-offs last Monday night at the Saipan Bowling Center.

2, he earned 649 pinfalls after three games to stay in the hunt for the July plum. However, Omechelang fell two pinfalls short of overtaking Talavera, as the former logged 189 pinfalls for an average of 209.50. Talavera averaged 209.75, as his 178 in Game 4 saved him from losing the top spot and \$90 cash prize that went with the monthly award.

With the win, Talavera earned his third monthly award. He ruled the March and April roll-offs and tied Raymond Zapanta (January, April, and June winner) in the list of bowlers with

See TALAVERA on Page 26